

THE AMERICAN FARMER,



SPRIT OF THE AGRICULTURAL JOURNALS OF THE DAY.

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No. 10

WORK FOR APRIL.

There is, perhaps, no month in the year which should be more deeply interesting to the American husbandman, and thus believing we will proceed to call the attention of our brethren to go to work in right good earnest, so that they may always command their own time, and have the pleasing satisfaction to know when they may retire to rest at night, that they have omitted nothing which they should have attended to, and that their business is not behind hand. With this brief introduction, we shall proceed to sketch an outline of some of the things which should be attended to

ON THE FARM.

Fences.—If you have not already availed yourself of our last month's admonition, delay no longer, but go forth at once and examine every panel of fence, gate and bars on your farm, and promptly have every necessary repair made, as it is useless to put in crops unless you previously secure them against the depredations of mischievous animals. Indeed, bad fences may be said to teach animals the vicious habit of breaking into fields, and such being the case, it is the bounden duty of all to keep the temptation of weak or imperfect fences out of their way. Human reason being superior to brute instinct enjoins it upon us to exert it in self-defence, and surely it cannot be more laudably exerted than in preserving from depredation those fruits of the field for which we have to toil so incessantly, and from the proceeds of which our honest debts have to be paid and the wants of our families supplied.

Fence corners and sides.—If along these there be bushes and weeds growing, extirpate them, as nothing so impresses the way-faring man with an idea of the slovenliness of a farmer as such unsightly proofs of inattention.

Preparation of ground and the sowing of Oats.—It is an admitted fact that the earlier oats are got into the ground, the better chance there is of their filling and

yielding well. While it is difficult to fix a day in a country like ours on which to sow them, it is perfectly safe to say, that the ground should be ploughed for the reception of the seed as soon as the frost is out of it and sufficiently relieved of moisture to admit of being well ploughed. It is not necessary that one should wait until he is ready to sow his oats—nay, on the contrary, it is far better that the ground should be ploughed long enough to settle down and become compact before the seed be committed to it. Two good ends are thus answered; the seed germinates quicker, while the plants derive a better support. As we have frequently remarked before, the oat crop is one too much neglected by too many growers of it. It cannot be said to be a profitable crop,—it is, however, an indispensable one, and might, by proper attention, be made much more profitable than it is, if some little attention were paid to the manuring and preparation of the ground. We have known 60 bushels to the acre, to be grown on a farm in this vicinity, when on the adjoining one but 15 were harvested from the same quantity of ground. The quality of the soils were both originally alike, but the one had had the advantage of a pains taking, careful culturist, who made it a point of honor, as it was his interest, to return to his fields nutriment at least equivalent to the crops he took off of them, whereas the other went upon the deteriorating plan, of extracting every thing out of his land and returning to it nothing. We often hear farmers of very good common sense say, that oats is an impoverishing crop, and so it is, as is all other crops of rapid growth, in the hands of those who pay no attention to manuring, and content themselves with complaining because the fertility of the soil is not as lasting as time.

Time of sowing.—We have remarked that we cannot fix a day for sowing, as one that would suit one portion of our vast country would be altogether unsuited to another; but as a general rule we will ob-

serve that so soon as the ground can be well prepared is the period for sowing oats.

Quantity of seed per acre.—If the ground be good, 3 bushels to the acre will be about the right quantity—if it be thin, the same quantity will be required, as it should be an object under any circumstances of soil to give enough seed to the earth to fill it with plants in order that weeds may not be permitted to usurp the place of the ground.

Of the Soil.—Should your soil be poor, make an effort to sow on it 1 bushel of plaster and 2 of ashes per acre. After the oats come up should you apprehend any danger from that "ugly customer," the cut worm, sow a bushel of salt per acre on your field, and you may rest assured that the safety of the young oat plants will be secured.

Hauling out your manure.—If you have still to perform this duty, lose no time in going about it, and do not quit until your work is done, and it is always best to be ahead of your work, and especially such heavy jobs as this. Should you not be prepared to spread and plough it in as hauled out, cover each pile with earth, and if you desire that your manure shall do you the greatest amount of service, before you remove it to the field, incorporate a bushel of plaster with every 20 loads of it—this will prevent the escape of the enriching gases on which the corn plants so delight to feed, and which gives an impetus to their first coming up.

Corn and corn ground.—As the time has arrived in many parts of our country for corn planting, and in a few weeks more it will be time in all, we beg to call the attention of our readers to this important part of their duties. We take it for granted that all who may have clay lands which they intend to put in corn this spring, were provident enough to plough them last winter, as nothing is more conducive to success in such soils with the corn crop, than the advantage to be derived from their exposure to the influence of the alternations of freezing and thawing during winter and early spring. While it disintegrates the more adhesive parts, it mellows the soil, lessens the toil of working, and destroys the embryo cut worms. But it is but fair to remark, that this benefit to the texture of the soil, can only be calculated upon where the precaution was taken to plough only when the land was in proper condition; for if it may have been turned up when wet, the probability is, that it will remain in clods during the entire season, thus adding greatly to the toils and expense of cultivation, as well as lessening the products of the crop.

If any should have any such grounds, intended for corn, which is still to be ploughed, we would admonish them not to plough it when it may be either too wet or too dry, but to choose that golden state of "betwixt" when it may be easily reduced to a state of pulverization by means of the roller and harrow, both of which should be freely used until the desired end is attained.

We are firmly impressed with the belief that large crops of corn are only to be realized where deep ploughing, thorough tilth, generous manuring, close planting and frequent and cleanly culture have been resorted to to secure them. The corn plant is a greedy feeder and requires a plentiful supply of food; and although it will grow in most soils, and yield something, still if it be expected of it to be liberal in its product, it must be fed with a sumptuous hand—so also must the ground be in such a condition as to offer no impediment to the descent of its tap root, or to the horizontal expansion of its rootlets as they may be stretching themselves across the furrow in search of nutriment. It is also essential that lime or ashes shall be in the soil to aid in forming the silicate of potash. Why should a corn grower be content with a yield of three or four barrels to the acre, when by attention to the things we have pointed out he can with the same labor realize a product of from 8 to 12 barrels on the same quantity of ground. There are those who hold it to be possible to grow two hundred bushels per acre—our notions of product, though tolerably sanguine in our temperament, do not carry us that far, though we do think that no corn grower, with the appliances of improvement at command, should rest contented under fifty bushels per acre. But to secure such a result, it is necessary that he should plant no corn except on ground which had been previously well manured, deeply and skilfully ploughed, without balks, and made perfectly fine by rolling and cross rolling, and thorough harrowing. These pains should at all times be taken; but if our *corn* and *Indian meal* are to find a permanent market in Great Britain, in that fact the planter should find an additional inducement to increase his pains taking, in order that, without increasing his *force*, he may make double the quantity of corn upon the same quantity of land that he now does, thereby greatly adding to his revenue, without materially increasing his expenses.

We have spoken of the necessity of turning up clayey ground only when in a proper condition, and we will here add, that sandy, gravelly sand or sandy loam may be ploughed at any time, and that the deeper the better.

Time of planting.—It is utterly impossible to say when is the proper time for corn planting, as every neighborhood of thirty miles apart has its own peculiar *proper* time, selected no doubt for reasons good and sufficient—but this we may premise, that in a very large majority in any given number of years, the early planted corn will succeed best, and give the heaviest yield.

Distance apart.—There is another matter upon which we will not undertake to decide, as every district of country has its favorite distance, though as we are not only the advocate of close planting, and firmly believe that a very large crop cannot otherwise be grown, we are constrained to advance the opinion that on good ground, well manured, 3 by

4 is space enough. *Earl Stimson*, of Galway, New York, has grown 5000 bushels on 50 acres only planted $2\frac{1}{2}$ by $2\frac{1}{2}$. This was, to be sure, a small variety of corn, so that that distance would not suit the taller kinds grown in more southern and western States, but as there is a medium in all things we cannot see any philosophical reason to justify the very wide space between the rows given by many corn planters.

Preparation of the seed.—Dissolve a pound each, of salt-petre, and flour of sulphur, the latter to be tied up and put in ten gallons of water, soak your corn therein for twelve hours, then as you want to plant it each day, immerse the quantity wanted in a tar-bath prepared thus—put 2 gallons of boiling water and a pint of tar into a bucket or tub, keep stirring it till the tar is thoroughly dissolved, then put in your corn, stir it about until it is coated over with the tar liquid—strain off the tar and dry the grains of corn in plaster or ashes, or a mixture of both, when it is fit to plant. No more corn should be taken out each day than can be planted.

After treatment.—Just as the corn is about coming up, mix up as much plaster and ashes as will allow 1 bushel of the former and 5 of the latter to the acre, and let careful hands give to each corn hill about a gill of the mixture.

The Culture.—The great art of corn growing in our opinion is keeping it clean from the period when it is fit to be worked until it is laid by. But we believe also, that the plough should never be used after the plants attain a height of 12 or 15 inches, and that from that period the cultivator should be used in its stead, as we believe that great injury is often done by the former implement in the laceration of the roots of the corn plants.

Scare-crows.—Suspend bright sheets of tin on tall poles, at proper distances, through your corn fields, and the crows will not disturb your corn, as the least wind causes a reflection that will prove just as frightful to them as an explosion of gunpowder or the report of a gun. We have tried this plan for several years and never without success.

Early Potatoes.—If you desire a crop of early potatoes, the sooner you get them in the better. As to the manner of preparing the sets, putting them in, and the culture of the crop, we refer you to our last month's number, and particularly direct your attention to the article therein on the subject of a preventive of the rot.

Barley.—It is time that this crop should be put in, therefore if you intend sowing any, bestir yourself. For our views upon its culture we refer you to our remarks in last month's number. The soil best adapted to its culture is a deep sandy loam, in good heart, which should be neither too wet nor yet dry. On such lands 40 bushels to the acre have often been grown, though thirty may be set down as a more probable quantity to be raised.

Quantity of Seed per acre.—About 2 bushels to the acre is about the right quantity.

Harvesting.—It should be cut before it is dead ripe, as if left till then it is very apt to shatter.

Sowing Clover Seed.—Though it is full late, Clover seed may still be sown—and let us tell you that all fields in which fall grain may have been sown should have clover seed sown on them, although you may intend to plough them up for next year's culture.

Hemp and Flax.—It is time that these crops were gotten in.

Milk Cows—and Cows in Calf.—Let these receive daily allowances of nutritious slops in addition to their fodder.

In-pig Sows and Sows with pigs.—See that these receive additional care.

Ewes in Lamb—and Ewes with young lambs.—Let these, in addition to their long feed, receive daily allowances of meal of some kind, oats or roots—a gill a day of the two former, or about a pound of the latter per head.

Working Horses, Mules and Oxen.—As the time has come when you will be calling upon these generous, patient animals, to strain their every muscle for your advantage, let us urge it upon you as an act of justice as well as of interest, to have them liberally supplied with food, well cleaned and properly lodged. By such increased attention you will increase their physical ability to perform their daily toils. Nay, that is not all—you will find your reward in the pleasurable feelings which the consciousness of having been kind to them will impart.

Outhouses of all kinds should be cleansed and white washed.

Chickens.—Our experience teaches us to believe that if young chickens were fed with the crumbs of bread soaked in milk much fewer would die. It has always struck us, that the raw dough of Indian meal was an improper food for them, as from its tendency to become sour when operated upon by heat it must necessarily impair their digestive organs.

With this remark we will close our conversation upon matters connected with the farm, and endeavor to say something about what is to be done in the garden, and beg you to follow us into our Horticultural department.

HARFORD COUNTY.—We are highly gratified in perceiving that an effort is being made in this county to form an agricultural society, and the more so, as, judging from the array of names appended to the advertisement calling a meeting of the farmers, preliminary to organization, we believe that it will come into existence under such auspices as will ensure present efficiency and a long career of future usefulness.

There is no county in our State where a spirit of laudable improvement more abounds than in Harford—none where more has been achieved within the last few years. Farms which ten years ago were of comparatively little value, have been brought up to a state of fertility which place them among the most productive lands of Maryland. Such instances of improvement are not rare, but have ex-

tended themselves in every direction of the county, and been so extending from the first period that the facilities of the Tide Water canal brought that great fertilizer, Lime, within the reach of the intelligent farmers bordering on its line. The manifest benefits which resulted from its use in the border districts aroused a spirit of emulation throughout the county, and subsequently, quarry after quarry, located in various parts of it, have been opened, until now, supplies of lime are attainable in almost every quarter; nay, not only attainable, but so freely availed of that a new face has been put upon the agricultural prospects and prosperity of the entire county. It was only a few months since that in conversing with a gentleman, formerly a resident of Harford county, but who removed to the west about fifteen years since, that we were informed by him that but for the familiar faces which he met, so changed for the better did he find everything in his old and cherished neighborhood, that he should not have known he was in the haunts of his childhood. The farm which he had sold because it no longer rewarded his labors, had, under the improving system of the gentleman to whom he disposed of it, been brought to a state of fertility that was as gratifying to his feelings, as it proved confounding to his former views of the value of land exhausted by improvident culture. He remarked to us, that he always knew that the soil of Harford was "kind" and would show the effects of whatever manure that was put upon it, but that he had no conception that such permanency could be imparted to its improvement; and yet *lime* and *rotation* had converted old sedge fields into luxuriant clover ones.

We say to the farmers of Harford, continue the glorious labors you have so successfully commenced—organize your agricultural society upon liberal principles—and you cannot fail to make your county the garden spot of the state.

A meeting is to be held at Bel-air on the 4th of April, inst. to appoint a committee to draught a constitution and by-laws to be submitted to a general county meeting on the first Tuesday of the May term of Harford county court—The call is signed by the following named gentlemen, viz: R. W. Holland, Wm. Galloway, Thos. A. Hays, Henry H. Johns, Thos. H. Morgan, Samuel Bradford, C. W. Billingslea, James McCormick, James Herring, Jr., Otho Scott, H. D. Farnandis, A. L. Jarrett, Danl. Scott, Harry D. Gough, Henry Richardson, Samuel Magraw, Wm. W. Bradford, Wm. B. Bond, Cheyney Hoskins.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY.—We also find, in the Rockville papers, the proceedings of a meeting of the Farmers of that county, at which it was resolved to form an agricultural society.

The meeting was organized by the appointment of Messrs. *Otho Magruder* and *Samuel C. Viers*, to preside, and selecting *W. Viers* *Bowie* as Secretary.

Such demonstrations of public opinion are always greeted by us, and so received by the public, as pleasing evidences of that growing spirit of improvement in the tillers of the soil, which is destined at no distant day to elevate the character and pursuit of the American husbandman, and develop the resources of our common country. Every such society when organized imparts a new impulse to the energies of the community in which it may be located, and by the force of example, advances in an incalculable ratio its powers of production, and binds up a whole people, in the bands of friendship.

Our best wishes are due to those who have begun this good and patriotic work, and we tender them our holiest aspirations that their labors may be crowned with triumphant success.

As an evidence of the zeal with which the matter has been taken up, it is stated that 59 gentlemen requested the Secretary to enroll their names as members of the association.

Richard I. Bowie, Esq. delivered an encouraging address, with a series of resolutions, proposing the appointment of 25 persons from different parts of the county, to prepare and draft a constitution for such an association, based on practical results, and to recommend such other steps, as may in their judgment, advance the object of the meeting—the committee to report to an adjourned meeting on the first Monday in April—when an election of officers will take place. The resolutions were adopted, and the following named gentlemen were appointed as the committee by the chair, viz: Allen B. Davis, Roger Brooke, Sen., Dr. Wm. B. Magruder, Thomas Griffith, Ulysses Griffith, Lyde Griffith, Wm. Sellman, Dr. W. Waters, Z. Waters, Saml. Blunt, H. W. Talbott, Wm. Chiswell, John P. C. Peter, John Gott, Jos. C. White, Nathan Loughborough, R. J. Bowie, Jos. T. Bayley, F. C. Clopper, Greenbury M. Watkins, F. Valdenar, Wm. H. Stabler, Thos. Gitting, Thos. N. Wilson.

For the American Farmer.

TO THE YOUNG FARMERS OF MARYLAND. AGRICULTURAL ACCOUNTS.

Section III.

CASH AND LABOR ACCOUNTS.

Cash account we have already given some attention; but it is, of all others, the one about which most precision is needed, in its proper adjustment. Nothing can properly enter into the Cash Book but *bona fide* Cash transactions. No entry embracing a cash item, can be first made in the day book; as this would destroy the most essential feature in this account—its proper *credit balance*, which should not only correspond exactly with the sum still remaining in hand; but the Cash Book and Ledger, should each exhibit the *same balance*.—Thus each checkmates the other, and detects the least error at once. We say *credit balance*—as it should always be a credit balance, unless you have disbursed more cash than you have received, which is impossible—or, as in borrow and loan transactions, of which merely a memorandum is kept, until the sum be returned or received in a few days—These items not being *bona fide* business transactions, do not enter into the books, but if still outstanding or open, when the Cash account is balanced; if it be a *loan*, so much *credit*, and if be *borrowed*, a *debit balance* is produced, which latter should exhibit the deficiency.

Suppose, for example, cash account in the Cash Book, and the money absolutely on hand, at the end of the month, agree that you have \$500, yet you owe \$1000, temporarily borrowed money—cash should actually exhibit a *debit balance* of \$500.

But as borrowing and loaning from day to day, cannot, or should not be common among farmers—when money is borrowed, it is generally for a fixed period, on bond and mortgage: it then becomes a *bona fide* transaction for a valuable consideration, and enters into the ordinary cash account.

In making a settlement at the end of the year, when you owe J. K., the Livery stable keeper, \$100 for horse livery, and he owes you \$50 for hay, and you

pay him the difference in cash,—or if the case be reversed, and you be the recipient of the balance—only the amount of cash passed between you, should go into the cash book; the presumption being, where proper accounts have been kept, that the other items have been previously correctly charged when transferred—or even if they have not. A horse account—or the proper account according to the nature of the transaction—should be charged in the Day Book, to J. K. for the livery, and J. K. charged to hay account for the hay furnished him, in current account.

Cash account in the Ledger, unlike all other accounts in this respect, is an exact counterpart of the Cash Book, as regards the amount and their positions, but, as hitherto stated, in allusion to Ledger account generally, the detail of transactions, and language used to convey the entire meaning, is never copied into the Ledger. As for instance—Cash acct in the cash Book, might be debited to L. M. for \$100 received of him for a horse sold him—which in the Ledger, would simply be expressed by cash account, Dr. to L. M. \$100.—or to sundries, for the aggregate of receipts, when posted.—It being customary in carrying the cash to the Ledger, to add up the whole amount, and comprehend it under “to sundries” and “by sundries,” for the whole amount received and paid, since last balanced.

There is another peculiarity about cash account. If it be incorrectly kept, or not properly balanced, the whole set of books, however accurately adjusted in other respects, will become confused and erroneous.

Should the balance on hand not amount to, or exceed what the cash calls for; after taxing your memory, to recall any item of expenditure or receipt not entered, pass the difference, on whatever side it may be, to an account called *suspense account*, from which on detecting the error or omission, it can be carried at a future time to its proper account, by a *transfer entry*, explanatory of the error, made in the *Day Book*—should the error never be discovered, the amount belongs to loss and profit account—but this is rarely the case when the item belongs to an *individual account*, as the next settlement will detect it.

We think it unnecessary to enter more minutely into the nature of this account, as to its general character, but will merely add, that *double columns* are ruled in the Cash Book for the sake of convenience, and the inner set, are generally used to sum up several entries belonging to the same account, when made at the same time, or date, previously to their being expended—or, as you may prefer, to enter the items belonging to some leading source of receipts or expenditure—as, for instance, on a dairy farm, the inner columns of the debit side of the Cash Book might be used for it—and on the credit side House account—Labor, or some other account, causing a number of trifling entries, daily.

Cash account, as may be readily understood, has nothing to do with Loss and Profit account; but merely representing that portion of our substance called *cash*, while in that form only, the balance, both in the Cash Book and the Ledger, is carried forward, as well from the end of one year to the beginning of another, as from one week or month to another, when balanced.

Labor Account.—This need scarcely be opened as a distinct account, where none but *hired labor* is employed; as the wages paid should at once be charged to the particular crops, or species of work, on which the labor was expended.—The object being not so much to ascertain the amount of means consumed, in

this important item, as the *proportionate cost of labor* to the value of a particular crop.

A separate account should however, be opened for each hired hand, headed with his name, properly spelled—with a memorandum in pencil, of the date on which he set in. Credit each one with his month's labor, by Labor account, or the crops; and charge him, by name, with the wages when paid, in the Cash Book.

When a hand can write, always require his receipt. If he cannot, cause him to make a mark in the usual way, witnessed by another white man,* in writing.

Although it may be scarcely admissible in a treatise on Book Keeping, to indulge in abstract reasoning, the present account seems necessarily to involve some digressive reflections.

The judicious application of our means in the procuration of labor; the amount, in proportion to our funded capital, requisite for this species of outlay, and the most economical adaptation and management of this rural engine, all demand not only much money, but with all, careful consideration.

Writing for the eyes of intelligent and liberal minded men, of all the States, we do not hesitate to express ourself frankly,—our whole object being more to elicit attention to a simple fact, than to advise—while, as our entire theory is based, not on a *political*, but *pecuniary* basis, we claim, at present, no loftier aim than *utility*.

But, as a slave-holder ourself, carefully anxious to discover a defect in our *moral* title to this species of personal property, if there were any, we have sought the remotest authority, which is at the same time the most sacred; and, so far from having discovered a *flaw*, find that slavery, as an authorised and distinct branch of social polity, was almost coetaneous with the Creation: has never been questioned in point of fact, by either sacred or profane history, until within a century, by the latter. One of the Fathers of the Church, St. Chrysostom, having been betrayed into martyrdom, by one of his slaves; the Greek word generally translated *servant*, or *bondman*, in the New Testament, meaning *slave*—and above all, I & E, who as Emanuel, laid down “precept upon precept, and line upon line,” for the regulation of the greatest to the least moral action, although in the midst of it, taught not against it—but on the contrary, by his special servant, St. Paul, proffers to the *slave*, alike with the *free*, that *spiritual* freedom, wherewith He “has made us free”—while enjoining continued obedience on the part of the slave to his earthly master. We cannot be supposed, for an instant, by any rational being, to entertain any other conviction, than that our moral as well as legal title to this species of property, is as perfect as our title as a nation, is to the land in which we dwell; and that all *extraneous* interference with this subject, *trans* or *sis*-Atlantic, proceed from what motive it may, is subversive of one of the most sacred laws of nations.

Having thus summarily attained our true position on this question, it only remains for us to state *why* we have broached it. It is solely for the purpose of explaining the comparative value of the different kinds of labor, as exhibited by the progress in agricultural improvement where the different kinds are employed.

Our colonial history and the history of our more northern states, distinctly mark the progress of Slavery to be southwardly; while the experience of slave holders in those states which border on free

*Or any one competent to give evidence.

states, will place them in possession of ample data, to establish the position that our slaves are becoming less valuable every year, both intrinsically and in a pecuniary light. Nor is there any prospect, happily, of another cotton bubble, to distend the morbid appetite of speculators, and induce Virginia to rear for sale, ten millions of dollars worth *more* of slaves, than she has already sold to the south, for which she will never receive a sou, and under the embarrassment of which, she continues to labor.

That the progress of servile emancipation is onward—advancing, it may be, at an almost imperceptible pace, and even sometimes, apparently retrograde—no one whose memory spans a fourth of a century, in this State, will question. No doubt it has been much impeded by the very fanatics, who in their zeal, lacking both the sense to perceive, and the virtue to weigh consequences—have rivetted the chain they would sunder.

Another class, who affect an enlarged philanthropy beyond the age, both abroad and within our federal confines, and who would even carry it out by a *delightful* amalgamation, disgust all decency loving and rational men. Many of them in England, taking the cue of ministers, indulge in a grand moral utopia, to be located somewhere within our southern border, where the sea island staple and the upland growth of Cotton, are to flourish for England's benefit, she being sponsor for the liberated millions, who are to toil for their benefactor.

But, notwithstanding all these mad schemes and speculations, on an unknown futurity; all intelligent men must foresee the grand moral result, which the progress of history is daily developing, and which will ere long, sweep political slavery from the United States.

Now, as every merchant knows, as soon as the market price begins to recede, it is time to close sales, common prudence dictates that a depreciating property had better be disposed of at once, to save both additional expense and loss. Mere selfishness would suggest that we, as slaveholders, shall at least test the matter, as to whether, taking all things together—cost, interest, climate and customs—slave labor is cheaper than free.

In proceeding so delicate a subject, we would respectfully suggest, that a certain number of free white men be employed, either for general or particular work, and that a corresponding number of able bodied slaves be selected out of your people: that an accurate account current be kept, of the quantity of work, of the same description, the time required and the expense incurred, for one year by each party—whether the plantation be of cotton, sugar, tobacco, or corn.

From our own knowledge, out of ten slaves, old and young, there is an average of about two able bodied men and the same number of women. Hence the account against these two men, in such a competition, should be charged with the expenses of two old, and two young negroes, under seven—(leaving out two, say between seven and fourteen, who may be supposed to nearly pay for their keep—) who are so much dead loss. This account should be debited for the interest on their entire average value, which we will suppose to be \$300 round—making an aggregate of \$3000, or \$180 interest.

From the tables prepared by the Life Insurance Companies, it is easy to adjust the insurance, deducting from their rates say 10 per ct. for their profit, to ascertain the precise risk; and, if you will, allowing 5 per ct. more time, on account of the known superior average longevity of the negro.

The main expectation of life of 1000 persons at two years old, being about forty years, in the healthiest districts of country, of the white, on which we propose allowing 5 per ct., for that of the black, shows that of the negro to be 42 years, and gives us data to estimate the annual insurance on each, valued at an average of \$300, which must be lost by death, within the average period of 42 years; and which we discover to be \$7. 15-100, within a fraction, per annum, each, for life insurance; making an aggregate of 71.50, as insurance risk on the ten slaves, less 10 per ct. for Co's. profit—\$64.35.

This is liberally in favor of the account; as in law, the slave is contemplated to be a burthen on his master, after the age of forty five; which would, if taken as the latest extreme, of useful vital duration; and seven as the first year of usefulness, leave seventeen and one half years, as the maximum average of profitable duration of a slave's life; which is no doubt nearer the truth, than our estimate above.

We would also take the labor of the wives of the two white men, as an offset against that of the two able bodied negro women, as although the former would perform more, the field labor of the latter, when not nursing, would be more valuable, especially to the cotton planter, than the house work of the two white women; except they were Germans, who are accustomed to the most laborious field work.

The white hands may be supposed to be more particular, as regards the *quality* of their food; but our own experience does not warrant the conclusion.—The fact may be easily ascertained, however, as where the two descriptions of hands are employed together, the whites invariably mess separately from the blacks. The meat and flour should be weighed out each day and cooked separately, i. e. the distinction preserved, as for which party, each portion is designed. From our own experience, *five days* out of the seven, is a safe estimate of the number, in which a whole day's work is done by the slave. The other one hundred and four days in the year, not only being a dead loss, but frequently attended with additional charge, for medical attendance during sickness, and nursing by other servants.

Clothing is an additional expense, which, however economically managed, adds so much against slave labor. Waste, carelessness and theft are so proverbially the characteristics of the class, that any argument to convince slave holders, that they are facts, were utterly useless, and would only give rise to risibility.

The loss by absconding cannot be computed with any accuracy, in dollars and cents, but deserves to be remembered, as against the slave account.

All agricultural writers agree, that as a general rule, the prosperity of the farmer depends mainly upon the amount of means, in proportion to his landed property, consumed in labor—but none of them contemplate a funded personal property, equal to half the value of the land and improvements, and subject to so many contingences, as slavery superinduces.

How many of us would experience the removal of a social incubus, were our investment in this property, converted into money! How our old plantations would smile under the judicious outlay of half the sum so acquired, in manures, labor and systematic management!

As we look around us from where we are now writing, the four farms into which an old estate has been divided, come within the scope of our vision. Beyond this a wide upland domain spreads out, together including some two thousand acres; which

twenty years since, were worn out; and a large portion actually turned out into what are called "old fields," or commons—now (with the single exception of the home place, still cultivated mainly by slave labor,) in the most flourishing condition, under American, Quaker and German management, with their free labor.

An "old-field," over which, "satchel at back," we have often trudged to school, which fifteen years since, would not have produced lichens, "dog's hair," or sorrel even; now, as a vegetable garden, conducted by an American, pays fifty per cent. per annum on its cost, the only stimulant, beside "elbow" marrow, used, being vegetable manure, until within a year or two, when it was limed.—Thus overturning a favorite theory, that an exhausted soil, cannot be restored by vegetable manure alone.

This has all been accomplished by free labor. And we verily believe there are not two thousand acres in the whole state of Maryland, once in a similar state of exhaustion, that can be pointed out, as having been reclaimed by the labor of slaves, within the last twenty years. At any rate, we would feel gratified at the affirmative information, well authenticated.

With a brief review of the advantages of the converse of this picture, we shall terminate these remarks.

In the more northern part of our own state, influenced as its customs are by contiguity to Pennsylvania, the free labor system has obtained to a considerable extent; and where, it is a well authenticated fact, that independently of the natural fertility of certain districts, the most substantial farmers reside. Both in the region alluded to, and in Pennsylvania, there are many social obstacles to the rapid accumulation of wealth.—The entire absence of mercantile enterprise and the too prevalent "innocence" of the ways of the world, militate in no small degree against securing the best prices for their staple productions, while the utter contempt for education, manifested by a large portion of the agricultural community, in Pennsylvania especially, contributes to their stock of intellectual disadvantages.

In New York and the Eastern states, education, intellectual advancement and natural intelligence, fostered by enterprise and necessity, enable those who inhabit the most sterile spots, to make them vie in the abundance of their agricultural products, with the lands of those, who, from greater natural advantage, and consequently, less industry, depend more upon nature than art.

The vicinity of Boston, where the soil is very thin, under the combined influences of wealth and labor, rivals in rural luxuriance, the more genial soil and exposure, within the same radius around Baltimore. Nor are these accidental results; for while an artificial soil is being created, almost, upon stony hills, and the sour barberry is giving place to the luxurious strawberry, at the north—the natural fertility of our soil, in our more temperate latitude, is, with few exceptions, becoming each year more exhausted, or relapsing into second wilderness.

The quarters or cabins which are already erected at some considerable outlay, for slaves, instead of being an annual sinking fund, could be made to pay an interest, by being let out to, or the rent deducted from the wages of hired hands. The small patches attached to each would be productive of pecuniary emolument to the planter, instead of being an increased drain upon his purse, as it is well known, "old Sam's" or "Pompey's" patch produces infinitely more corn, or cotton, to the acre, than "Massa's" field.

We do not wish to be understood as reprehending this indulgent custom.—In the outset, *utilitarianism* was our motto, and in conclusion, we merely iterate, many "things are lawful" that "are not expedient." Our grandfathers before us practiced it, on a large scale, and frequently have we witnessed the many abuses growing out of "tasking" and "privileges"—not unfrequently, has "massa" to purchase out such privilege, at an enormous rate—or when wanting vegetables or fruit, find some old negro's "patch" to contain the earliest and best, for which he had to pay "extra," beside suffering from the neglect of his own kitchen garden.

Our most lofty aspirations, how well soever veiled in self-deception, are often geocentric.

CINCINNATUS.

ROTATION OF CROPS.

March 9th, 1846.

To the Editor of the American Farmer :

I suppose that "Virginia" would have no objection to one's suggesting a small alteration in the arrangement of his "rotation" crops. We propose then that the clover crop intervene between the oats and the wheat crops. To many this may appear to be a small matter, but experience satisfies me that where wheat is the "staple crop" it is of great importance. We all know the uncertainty of our wheat crop, and particularly so in *Oats stubble*.

I am going here, sir, to make a strong declaration, but not stronger than true. I say that within forty years experience and observation, I know of no instance in which a wheat crop failed in this rotation to produce to the full amount, all that could have been reasonably expected from it. Indeed I might say that in several instances it went beyond my expectations. I will therefore by your permission suggest the following arrangement of his "course of crops," keeping in view the fact stated; that "wheat is our staple."

1st. Corn. Instead of applying "all the coarse manure made," apply the lime after the ground is broken up, and cultivate the corn so as to keep the lime as near the surface as possible.

2nd. Oats with clover seed. Run a light harrow after the seed so as to give it a superficial covering, or let the seed be sown before the cross harrowing—but no roller on it, or you will endanger the clover crop, should it be a hot season.

3d. Clover. As soon as circumstances will admit in the spring or early summer, haul out and spread over the field "all the coarse manure made." Turn your cattle on it when in bloom, and in July turn the trampled clover and manure under with the plough, and let it remain until the soluble parts are carried into the soil by the rains—Then turn the stubble and manure down with the plough, and leave it lie until two or three weeks before seeding, when it can be stirred, and at the proper time put in with the harrow by crossing the ploughing.

4th. *Sow clover seed in February*, so that the late frosts may give it a proper covering. Don't fear the frosts killing the young clover. All we have to fear south of 40° is our hot dry summers. By having the seed covered and an early germination, it gets a depth of root so as to endure heat and drought.

5th. Clover. Mow if your want of provender compels you; if not, turn in your stock when in full bloom, that they may tramp down more than they eat.

6th. Clover. Pasture as above and break up in July or August, and put your wheat in at the proper

time with a heavy cultivator, so as not to disturb the seed.

7th. Sow clover seed and the two following years pasture, so as to leave as much vegetable matter on the ground as possible. Then prepare for corn by liming. In this course 40 bushels of lime to the acre will be as much as is required.

It will be seen that Rye does not enter into the course. The uncertainty of this crop is the principal cause why it is left out. If however, there should be a disposition to venture it, it can be introduced after the last crop of wheat.

The rotation here presented avoids what I conceive a great error, namely, *making the ground too mellow for wheat*. If it were not from the fear of having already trespassed on your limited pages, which may be much better occupied, I could give some stubborn facts, in the range of my experience even on clayey lands, that should set this matter to rest in American agriculture.*

If "Virginia" prefer sowing wheat in oats stubble let him only plough once. Either haul out and spread the manure as soon as the oats crop is off, and let it remain until the soluble parts are carried into the soil by the rains: then turn the stubble and manure down with the plough—or plough immediately, and so soon as the shattered oats have sprouted, harrow, and any convenient time between that and seeding, the manure can be hauled and spread, and the wheat put in with a heavy cultivator followed by a harrow.

MARYLAND.

[*We beg our correspondent not to hesitate in giving his views to the public upon this important subject, satisfied as we are, that his experience and close observation, will enable him to do more than a "little good"—and we need not say, that any contribution from his pen will always be acceptable to the columns of the *American Farmer*. Our only regret is, that the additional weight which his name would give to his communications, is lost by his injunction to withhold it.]

ALABAMA FARMING.

Eufaula, Ala. March 2d, 1846.

To the Editor of the American Farmer:

DEAR SIR:—I sent you a short time past, a correspondence between Mr. Phillips of Mississippi and myself, which gave you some account of my manuring system, which I consider by far the most important item in my Agricultural operations, as my manuring is to some extent a commencement of that highly important matter in this region of country. I have heard of no farmer that has made a business of preparing the compost manure to any extent in the south or south-west, with the exception of Governor Hamilton, of South Carolina, who marled much of his farm, (see 1st vol. *Southern Cultivator*, pages 9 and 10.) Our farmers use their cotton seed as a manure, which is highly valuable, but the quantity is so small that we will have to depend on some other plan to keep up our lands, or in a very few years abandon them and seek a home in the far west. You discover that I called on Mr. Phillips for his opinion of my plan of preparing the compost, as I am as yet at a loss to determine in my own mind as to the best system of managing, or of preparing a compost with the blue marl. I have discovered that in some parts of Virginia, the system I have adopted had been tried with success. We have hauled out about forty thousand

bushels of compost prepared with the blue marl, the long leaf pine straw, with oak leaves, cotton stalks, &c., and the treading of cattle—we have scattered them over about 50 acres of land; not knowing the effect it would have, we were disposed to apply it liberally on our poor pine sandy land—we are now trying the clay, that is, we are mixing red clay, oak leaves and pine straw in the lot where our cattle is penned. Should we be spared, we will publish the result of our efforts with the compost.

We had a meeting of the Barbour County Agricultural Society—I will forward you the proceedings as soon as they are published. The winter with us has been much longer and colder than is common in this climate. I will here give you the present state of our garden, to wit: Pea blossoms, 1st March—Irish Potatoes up, do.—Corn do.—Beans do. Vegetables on the table 1st March: Lettuce, Cresses, Radishes and Onions. Flowers out 1st of March: Yellow Jessamine, Hyacinth, the Jonquil, the Daffadils, the Narcissus, the Violet, Heart's Ease, Phlox, the Flowering Pear, and the Yellow Roses. This is the natural operation of the climate, as we have no hot-houses,—the peach bloom was out on the 20th of February. I discover that we had the Pea bloom out last year on the 11th of February—we are much later the present year.

I would thank any of the readers of the *Farmer* to give their system of preparing or applying marl to land as a manure, if any of them have made an effort to enrich their lands with it. Hoping your efforts will be crowned with the greatest success, and that your most excellent Agricultural journal will find its way into at least twenty thousand families,

I am, dear sir, your ob't serv't,

ALEXANDER McDONALD.

Eufaula, Ala. 11th March, 1846.

To the Editor of the American Farmer.

DEAR SIR,—Having entered on the duties and responsibilities of the new year, I feel it a duty incumbent on each cultivator of the soil, to throw in his mite into the common stock of agricultural information, and thus encourage and stimulate his brother farmer in his onward course; it is often the case that we are at a loss to decide on something practical and useful, and at the same time sufficiently interesting to send out to the readers of our valuable journals, that are read by so many of our farmers, and are doing so much toward raising agriculture to that high stand it is destined to take among the sciences of this improving age. I have been much pleased and interested in reading the different numbers of *Cincinnatus* in the *Farmer*; the writer wields an able pen and deserves well of the young Farmers of Maryland, and old Farmers too; those practical subjects handled by such writers as *Cincinnatus*, is precisely what is wanting to render the agricultural papers truly valuable. I have rarely found any thing of the kind equal to the excellent address of Mr. Sellman in the January number; it combines practice and theory, and unites them in that strong and clear light that at once proves that the writer is master of his subject.

But I said, as farmers, we had entered on the duties of the new year; I find myself at page 47 of my memoranda of the present year, having closed a similar book for 1845, at page 205; and for 1844 at page 183. The object of keeping such a book is better explained by *Cincinnatus*, than I can possibly do it; the work for January and February of the present year,

have differed from the labor performed in the same months heretofore, as we have generally been employed in cleaning up new lands; the present year we have been engaged in hauling out compost manure; according to the best estimate that we have been capable of making, in taking it from the lot into the field, we have hauled about forty thousand bushels of this manure, and have spread it over our land at the rate of about 800 bushels to the acre; as this is entirely an experiment, I will, if spared, give the result so that it may be seen how far it is preferable for a farmer to make manure, instead of clearing fresh or new land. From the land on which we put this manure (a description of the manner in which it was made I gave you in my last letter) we only gathered last year about five hundred lbs. of cotton to the acre, and about ten bushels of corn to the acre; now my hope is to bring up my corn land to 50 bushels to the acre, and my cotton land to 2000 lbs. to the acre. I have every confidence I will be able to greatly improve the staple of my cotton, by my system of manuring and in selecting the best seed to be found; I have ordered on from New Orleans, some of the Mastadon seed, the staple of which is almost equal to the Sea Island cotton. We commenced planting corn on the 25th of February, and finished on the 7th of March; our first planting is now coming up handsomely. I prefer planting early in this climate for two reasons, first, I escape the drouths that generally set in early in the summer; and secondly, my business goes on without confusion, as my corn is worked over before my cotton begins to work, and this system extends through the whole year.

I am much pleased with the ploughs, bought of Sinclair & Co., and regret there is no direct communication from Apalachicola to Baltimore.

Your Friend,

ALEXANDER M'DONALD.

[We have received the correspondence and proceedings alluded to in the letters of Col. M'D., and regret our limited space will not enable us to present them to our readers; but we cannot omit expressing our gratification at the zeal which actuates our agricultural friends in Alabama.]

To the Editor of the American Farmer.

Sir:—I intimated in my last communication, an intention to lay before your readers a history of the Guano monopoly, created by the Peruvian Government in favor of a few English capitalists and merchants. I now fulfil my intention.

I premise that the history of the monopoly is made public not so much with the object of informing agriculturists, as to put the holders of the Peruvian Government Bonds in possession of facts to enable them to determine their prospects of payment, and of the degree of good faith observed by the government in the execution of conditions entered into with its creditors. I ought, perhaps, to say, that the facts are made public in newspapers published at Lima.

The Peruvian government, it appears, in want of money, accepted the loan of £100,000 sterling from certain parties, who, by the way of securing repayment to themselves, and a profitable employment of their capital, stipulated for a lease for five years of the exclusive privilege of exporting Guano to the extent of 120,000 tons, and establishing themselves as the Agent of the Government in the transactions arising out of this new trade. They were first to pay all the expenses to be incurred; to repay them-

selves the principal money with interest; their own commissions and charges, and apply the balance to the requirements of the government.

It is now shown that during the first 3½ years of the term, they exported only 30,000 tons, leaving 90,000 tons yet to be shipped by them provided they can sell it during the year 1846—the contract bearing date in 1841.

Preferring large profits upon a small consumption, to a larger demand at lower prices, they have maintained a high price for the article in the market, and thus have not been able to sell a quantity sufficient to enable them to ship the whole quantity which the contract authorized them to carry away.

Finding the trade very profitable, they were, when the accounts come away from which I gather my information, appealing to the government for an extension of the term to such a length as shall enable them to export a quantity to complete the 120,000 tons they were by terms of the agreement authorized to carry away. The government hesitates—they then by the way of temptation propose to lend a further sum of £40,000, with a request that they may be authorized to add 10,000 tons to the quantity originally granted. This proposal had not been accepted—on the contrary, a very influential member of Congress had proposed that instead of accepting this proposal, the government should, for certain considerations, grant licenses to merchants, to ship Guano without limit, either as to quantity or price at which it should be sold.

Now, Sir, I may be permitted to express a hope that we have a prospect after this year of seeing the Guano trade thrown open to individual enterprise and unshackled exertion—a consummation devoutly to be wished.

I will occupy no more space in your valuable journal, or the benefits of freedom from monopoly might be forcibly dwelt upon.

I subscribe myself, Sir,

Yours respectfully,

FRANCIS FINCH.

Plum Point, Cecil County, March 9th, 1846.

FAMINE IN IRELAND.—The London Times, of the 6th of February, says:

"There appears to be no longer a doubt that an almost universal famine is about to visit Ireland. Such is the dire reality which has been looming upon us through the midst of Irish rumor and English incredulity, these four or five months, and which is now too distinct and too palpable to be any longer denied. But the worst feature of the case is the almost utter absence of resource. A dreadful visitation of nature is aggravated by the imperfect character of our social institutions. It is impossible to hit on a remedy which shall not run into abuse, pass into a vicious precedent, and perhaps, to a great extent, nullify itself and perpetuate the misery it affects to cure.

"The commissioners to investigate the condition of Ireland, say it appears, from undoubted authority, that of 32 counties in Ireland, not one has escaped failure of the potato crop; of 130 poor law unions, not one is exempt; of 2,058 electoral divisions, above 1,400 are certainly reported as having suffered."

To have a supply of horse-radish all winter, grate a quantity while the root is in perfection, put it in bottles, fill with vinegar, and cork tight.

Keep the hogs supplied with peat and muck.

For the American Farmer.
CORN CULTURE.
 BY A PAUTUXENT PLANTER.

MAIZE, OR CORN, is the great staple of this country—It is invaluable as food for man and beast. It would be idle for one to talk of the various uses this kind of plants is subjected to, or the many various modes in which it is served up by the ingenuity of American housewives, or the different ways the farmer employs it in feeding his stock, in a land like ours, where it is truly the staff of life, and where it has become so generally one of the indispensable necessities of life. We owe great gratitude to Providence for blessing our beloved country, with so wholesome, so cheap, so abundant an aliment, which with so little labor can every where be produced, and which may be said to produce both bread and meat in plenty, for all mankind if necessary. If there was more demand for it, a much larger amount would be raised, and as it is, (worth not more than forty or fifty cents per bushel) there are on an average about 500,000,000 bushels of this grain grown in the Union per annum.

There are numberless varieties of corn. Some better than others according to soil and climate. In Maryland the most productive kinds are the large cob yellow corn, some of which I have grown that measured ten and three quarter inches in circumference, with thirty two rows on an ear, and some ears shelling one pint and a gill. The stalks of this sort commonly give two ears. The Baden corn is celebrated for the great number of ears to a stalk, and the smallness of the cob—the ears are small and the corn light, yet it yielded very abundantly; some hills with two stalks will yield twelve and as many as fourteen ears on a hill. There are other varieties of white corn, which are very fine, and among them is the large eared flint corn, and the eight rowed white. Careful selection of seed has produced numerous excellent varieties.

The manner of cultivating corn that I prefer is to plough the land intended for corn, as early in the winter as possible, and plough it at least seven inches deep, following with the subsoil plough in all low or stiff, hard places; put on, either before you plough or after, from twenty to thirty good sized ox-cart loads of manure, which if plowed under may be long, unrotted manure. Then harrow well, twice—and as early as the ground becomes sufficiently mellow by the genial influence of spring, check it each way by furrows of the plow at right angles. These furrows should be very shallow and the hills of corn be either $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet by 6, or four feet each way. Plant your corn with the hoe, and put five grains in a hill. Then run the big harrow over your field, and when the corn begins to come up, if you can, put a handful of this mixture upon each hill: 1 bushel of salt, 2 bushels of ashes or Poudrette, and $\frac{1}{2}$ a bushel of Plaster—Before the corn was planted, it should have been soaked in warm water twelve hours, in which water, two lbs. of salt-petre for every three gallons of warm water should have been dissolved. As soon as the corn gets hand high, let it be worked with the cultivator, and replanted, and thinned down to two stalks in a hill, at the same time the hands can uncover any which the cultivator may have covered up. As soon as this is done, sow broad-cast two bushels of Plaster per acre over it, then work it deep with good cultivators, every week until it begins to tassel generally—The hoes should pass over it once,

to chop up any weeds or bushes the cultivator might leave. Let the ground be thoroughly prepared before you plant, and afterwards never let a plow appear in your corn-field. I would not advise the removal of suckers. I would enlarge in argument to support these views, but will content myself with two extracts from Agricultural Reports, that set forth my views better than perhaps I could myself express them, and one giving an astonishing fact as proof of their deductions being clearly correct.

“About the time corn is maturing, brace roots shoot out from the joints near the surface of the earth. These roots often strike deep into the earth, affording both nourishment and support to the plant—If a higher hill has been made, these roots shoot out higher upon the stalk, where it is brittle, and likely to be snapped off by the first high wind. If there be little or no hilling, the corn will bend and yield to the storm, and rise again, having sustained little or no injury. This would particularly be the case where the soil is very fertile and highly cultivated.

“Well grown corn has from forty to sixty large roots extending from the joints under ground, which with the tap root, penetrate deep into the soil, if not obstructed by a hard subsoil. From these large roots innumerable small fibrous roots shoot out in all directions towards the surface, extending across the rows five or six feet, in search of nourishment for the plant. The deeper the perpendicular roots penetrate the soil, the less injury the plant will sustain from drought. And the more the surface has been broken and pulverized, the further the surface roots will extend in search of nourishment to mature fine and large ears.”—*Report on Corn in the Southern Agriculturist.*

Mr. Woodstock in Connecticut raised of the “Dutton corn improved”—one hundred and fifty-one bushels and eighteen quarts of shelled corn on one acre! “The land on which it was planted was “sowed ground” manured with common yard manure, at the rate of from twenty to thirty cart-loads to the acre, turned over flat, and rolled, and the corn planted on the furrows. It was hoed four times without hilling or turning up the furrows between the rows. The suckers were all allowed to remain upon this corn until the customary time for cutting the stalks.”—Extract from a Report by the Committee on Farm Products, prepared for a Society in Connecticut.

These extracts furnish many valuable facts, which enable the reader to form conclusions obviously important in the cultivation of this plant.

As soon as the corn has matured sufficiently, which is generally about the last of August, it should be cut off close to the ground and set up in stooks. As soon as cool, frosty, dry weather begins, it may be stripped in the field of the shucks, and housed, the shucks left on the stalk. The husking is done by throwing the corn from two heaps together and then setting up two heaps or stooks into one.

As soon as the corn is housed, you then should begin hauling in the fodder; stack it up all around the barn yard; it is done by merely setting the stalks up as used, and they keep sweet the whole winter just as they would do in single stooks in the field. By having it set up all around the barn-yard, you thus break the wind and have your cattle food convenient to your hand as you want to feed it out—This food given plentifully will keep cattle in fine order the whole winter, without anything else, unless it be straw or leaves for beds under their shelters.

4th March, 1846.

WHITMAN'S RAIL-WAY HORSE-POWER, THRASHER AND STRAW CARRIER.

To the Editor of the American Farmer:

Mr. Editor—DEAR SIR:—I do not wish to weary the patience of your numerous readers, with recommendations of my Horse power and Threshing Machine; but having been handed the following letter, with permission to have it published in your paper, I avail myself of this pleasure, as it contains a statement of facts which is of great importance to wheat growers. And coming as it does, from a gentleman of high standing, so well known in this city and county, I presume it will be read with interest, especially by those in want of such implements of agriculture. And as Mr. Talbott's farm is within fifteen minutes ride of the city by Rail Road, any person wishing to see its operation can easily do so.

Very respectfully,

EZRA WHITMAN, JR.

55 Light st. 2nd door from Pratt, }
Baltimore, March 18th, 1846. }

Rockburn, Elk-Ridge, Howard District, }
March 6th, 1846. }

Mr. Wellman—Dear Sir:—In compliance with the request contained in your letter of the 6th of January, I forward to you the result of my experience of Mr. Ezra Whitman's Rail-way Horse-power, Thrasher and Straw-Carrier.—You wish to know if its operation is more or less tiresome to the horses, and if it thrashes and cleans the grain with more dispatch than the usual mode practiced by farmers.

I take great pleasure in informing you, as far as my experience, that the operation is no more laborious than in common ploughing, and it thrashes more uniform than any machine I have ever had or seen; and the straw carrier and fan works admirably. And if you wish to purchase a first rate machine I advise you by all means to purchase one of Mr. Whitman's two-horse Power, Thrasher and Straw Carrier. It has a great advantage over the Sweep-powers in several instances. First, it saves 5 bushels of grain or more in the hundred, by the straw-carrier and fan. Secondly, it takes only half the number of hands and horses. Thirdly, one-third of the time is saved by the Fan being attached to the Thrasher, by the advantage of having the grain cleaned by one operation.

As near as I can ascertain, it saves \$11.35 per day over and above the Sweep machine; the latter takes 8 hands at 75 cents per day \$6.00
4 horses at 50 " " 2.00
The same hands half day cleaning, 3.00
5 bushels of wheat saved, 5.00

\$16 00

Ezra Whitman's machine takes
5 hands at 75 cents per day \$3.75
2 horses at 50 cents " " 1.00

\$4.75

Showing a saving of \$11.25 in favor of E. Whitman's machine. As for the quantity of grain, a Sweep machine will thrash as much as E. Whitman's, but admitting all this, Whitman's saves \$11.25 over the sweep machine, and in my estimation it is the best machine I ever saw, and as I have said before, you cannot do better than to purchase one of them.

Respectfully yours,

THOMAS J. TALBOTT.

The character which Major Atlee enjoys as one of the most successful and intelligent farmers of our State, will secure to the following testimony from his pen weight and authority to all who may contemplate supplying themselves with machinery of the kind alluded to in his letter.

Ezra Whitman, Esq.—Dear Sir,—I received a short time since, a note from you, in which you have requested my opinion of the utility, as a farming implement, of a Threshing machine I purchased of you in October last.—The machine you refer to, embraces a wrought iron rail-way Horse-power, Thrasher, Straw-carrier, and Fan. In your note you remark, that the daily inquiries are, "can 2 horses thresh and clean wheat at one and the same operation? How much can be performed per day and in what order? And is it, or not, more injurious to horses and more difficult to accustom them to this machine, than to work at the lever-power?"

In answering these inquiries I will take this order of operating with the machine.

1st.—The placing it, which is done in a shorter time and with less difficulty than the Lever Powers—the horses are put upon it with perfect convenience, and so far as I have seen, work off at once, as though they had been previously trained to it.

I have had Thrashed and Cleaned in one day, and that in the early part of January when the days are short, 100 bushels of wheat in perfect merchantable order—more than this can be done, for we had not made a special effort when this was accomplished. I have continued the same two horses while threshing about 3000 bushels, without showing the first symptom of fatigue or injury over the most ordinary farm work. Their movement upon the platform, is slow and uniform, and without any apparent exertion where the horses are heavy.

In view of the whole process of Threshing and Cleaning, each being done so perfectly, I give it a decided preference over any thing I have met with, and have said to some of my neighbors who wanted a machine, that, they ought not to accept as a present the best lever Power machine without a Fan, if they could buy one of these. The fact, that in the evening when your day's work is done, you find your grain all bagged, ready for the miller, or garner, is a source of no little gratification to the hands—this is attended to and done with me, during the intervals of oiling the machine, &c.

The space or size of the floor, necessary to accommodate the whole machinery and process of working it, need not exceed 15 feet by 25 feet, and all the hands required in operating, are 4, viz: one to hand and open the sheaves, one to feed, one to dispose of the clean grain and tailings, one to take away the straw—and all of this is light work and can be done by weak hands. Thus you have my opinion, which has been drawn up in haste, but from practical observation, and I will close by remarking that the merits of your machine are but to be known to bring it into general use. Yours most respectfully,

JAS. C. ATLEE.

New Windsor, Carroll Co. Md., Feb. 22d, 1846.

Writing of Hon. Henry Clay's farm, a correspondent of the N. Y. Tribune says: "The carriage course leading to the house, is lined with locust, cypress, cedar and other rare trees, and the rose, ivy and jasmine were clustering about them, and peeping through the boughs like so many laughing fairies."

Maryland Farmers' Club.

The Club met pursuant to notice, on Wednesday the 11th March—*John Glenn*, Esq. President, being absent, *D. Bowly*, Esq. Cor. Sec. called the meeting to order.

The chairman laid before the Club a package of seeds obtained from the Patent office, by *CHAS. CARROLL*, Esq. for the Maryland Farmers' Club, with a letter requesting that those who try the seeds will report to the society the qualities, varieties and value of the plants.

A package of seed was also received from the Hon. *REVERDY JOHNSON*, Senator in Congress from this State, obtained from the Patent office.

[The members present were supplied with these seeds; the remainder of them were left in charge of the Recording Secretary, for distribution to others, and can be obtained at the office of the American Farmer.]

Professor *BAER* was then called upon to present his Report upon the subject of the Potato disease, made in accordance with the direction of the Club at a former meeting. [This report was accompanied with drawings of the potato in the different stages of the disease, and will be found on another page. It was listened to with much interest, and altho' Mr. *B.* has taken ground in opposition to the views of some eminent writers upon the subject—yet his arguments in regard to the nature and cause of the disease, and his remedies therefor, were deemed very plausible, and are in accordance with the experience and practical results of some of the best farmers of the country.]

On motion of *Dr. PRICE*, of Balt. Co. it was Resolved, that the Report of Professor *Baer* be accepted, and that it be published in the *American Farmer*.

Mr. F. FINCH, of Cecil, moved that copies of the same be forwarded by the Cor. Secretary to the various Agricultural Societies of the U. S. and also to the most prominent individuals in this country and Europe, who have taken an interest in the investigation of the subject.

An interesting paper, prepared at the request of the President of the Club, by a gentleman of Western Virginia, detailing his system of Sheep Husbandry, was read, and agreeably to the standing rules of the Club, placed at the disposal of the editor of the *American Farmer*.

[This report was not intended by the writer for publication, but he has kindly consented to give to the public, through the columns of the "*Farmer*," an outline of his plan of managing his extensive flock through the year, which will prove highly interesting to those engaged in this branch of husbandry.]

The following gentlemen were proposed for membership of the Club, and unanimously elected, viz: *Gen. Ellicott*, of Howard District; *Jas. Harwood*, of Baltimore city; *W. W. W. Bowie*, of Prince George's; *Jos. Pearson*, Carville Stansbury, *Jas. Carroll, jr.*, *Wm. Jessup*, *John Stansbury*, *Robt. D. Merrill*, and *Wm. Kimmel*, of Baltimore Co.

The Club then proceeded to the selection of Vice Presidents, for the several counties, when the following gentlemen were elected:

Dr. J. B. PRICE, Baltimore County.

CHAS. B. CALVERT, of Prince George's.

COM. BALLARD, of Annapolis.

JOHN MERCER, of Anne Arundel.

CHEYNEY HOSKINS, of Harford.

CHAS. CARROLL, of Howard Dist.

RICHARD POTTS, of Frederick.

ANDREW KERSHNER, of Washington.

C. M. THURSTON, of Alleghany.

EDWARD LLOYD, of Talbot.

W. U. PURNELL, of Worcester.

Gen. POTTER, of Caroline.

Dr. BREWER, of Montgomery.

A. SHRIVER, of Carroll.

RICHARD THOMAS, of St. Mary's.

WM. T. GOLDSBOROUGH, of Dorchester.

JOHN BECKETT, of Calvert.

Judge CHAMBERS, of Kent.

Col. JOHN TILGHMAN, of Queen Ann's.

Gen. CHAPMAN, of Charles.

WM. WILLIAMS, of Somerset.

WM. GILPIN, of Cecil.

On motion, the Club then adjourned to the second Saturday in April.

By order,

SAMUEL SANDS, Rec. Cor.

PROFESSOR BAER'S REPORT,

TO THE MARYLAND FARMERS' CLUB,

On the Subject of the POTATO DISEASE.

The question proposed by the Farmers' Club:

Is the Murrain or Potato Disease, a species of Parasitic Fungus, an Internal Disease, or Microscopic Animalculæ?

THE ANSWER—The Murrain or Potato Disease is not a Fungus, nor an Internal Disease, nor is it Microscopic Animalculæ: but a putrefactive fermentation, produced by the condition of the atmosphere and improper cultivation.

To arrive at our conclusion, we must examine the composition of the Potato.

The analysis shows the following constituents:

SOUND POTATO No. 1.

Water,	74.50
Starch,	13.00
Albumen and Caseum,85
Sugar, saccharine,	3.00
Oily Matter,	1.17
Parenchyma,	6.00
Malic Acid,	1.45

100.

No. 1 Potato is found perfectly sound, and being part of the product of those planted on the same day as the remaining diseased potatoes, Nos. 2, 3 and 4.

No. 2. shows a partially diseased potato, which was divided into two parts, and make the two following experiments:

1st Experiment,—half of the potato is placed in a solution of Potash, (1 pound of Potash to 50 of water,)—it remained in the solution five minutes, when it was placed on a wet cloth, under a bell glass, and the temperature ranging from 90 to 105 Fahren.—at the expiration of 48 hours, it was analyzed, when it showed the following result:

Starch,	5. grs.
Albumen,40
Oily Matter,	6.0
Sugar,	2.10
Parenchyma,	6.
Water,	78.
Malic Acid,	trace.

2nd Experiment—The other half of the Potato, placed under the glass in a similar situation and moisture as first experiment, without the addition of the Potash or any other alkali—the thermometer standing between the two potatoes, temperature from

90 to 105,—after remaining the same time under the glass as No. 1 experiment, showed the following result as regards Starch and Albumen:

Starch,	1. grain
Albumen,	0.8
Oily Matter,	—
Sugar,	—
Parenchyma,	—
Malic Acid,	—
Water,	—

In the above our attention was only drawn to the Starch and Albumen. The gas set free in the above experiment, were very offensive.

No. 3 shows a diseased potato, which lay in a moister place than No. 2, and analysis shows the following:

Water,	77.10	
Starch,	2.00	
Albumen,	0.10	
Sugar,		} Pass off in in gas.
Oily matter,		
Parenchyma,		
Malic Acid,		

No. 4, shows a potato thoroughly rotten—no analysis was made of this Potato.

The above constituents of the sound potato are the effects of the changes continually going on in vegetables, losing the properties of one substance and assuming those of another. For instance, mucilage assumes the properties of starch, and the acid in green fruit becomes sugar in ripe fruit. So that you find, that vegetable principles are not fixed or stationary in the living plant. This continual decomposition in consequence of the mutual reaction of the different simple substances of which vegetable principles are composed, is by no means confined to the living state. It goes on with equal or with greater energy under favourable circumstances, in vegetable matter, after it has been separated from the living plant.

It is observed that this tendency to spontaneous decomposition, is usually greater in animal than in vegetable bodies. Experience has proved that Nitrogen is the active agent in ferment; and unless one of these constituents contains nitrogen, spontaneous fermentation is very slow.

In the Potato under consideration, we find Albumen, which is composed of Carbon, Oxygen, Hydrogen, and 16 per cent. of Nitrogen. In addition to Albumen, it has Caseum, which contains 21 per cent of Nitrogen.

Then we have two substances in Potatoes, containing the active or fermenting agent. It is owing to Nitrogen that animal matter petrifies more rapidly than vegetable, as vegetable generally is deficient of Nitrogen, except in the seed.

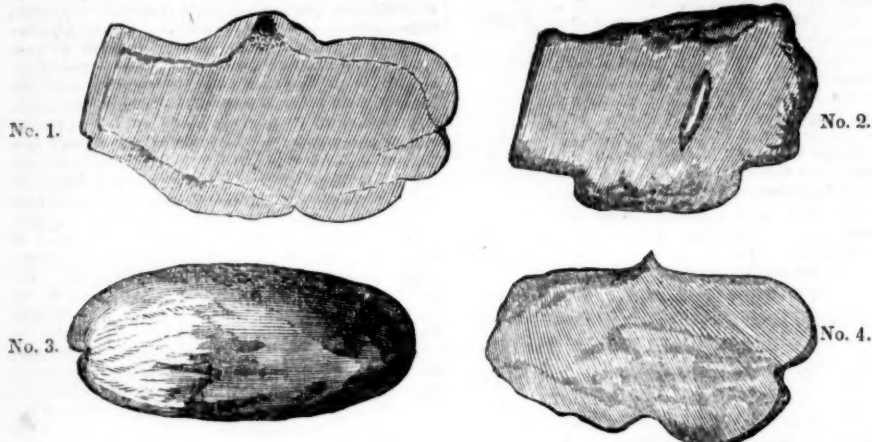
It is known that Nitrogenized substances are speedily active in inducing fermentation, but bodies of most practical importance in that respect, are vegetable Albumen, Caseum and Gluten. These bodies exist in all fruits and seeds in greater or less proportion; and in proportion to the Starch so is the Albumen and Caseum found. Then it follows the Potato or any other vegetable containing the most Starch and Albumen, is most easily disturbed; and fermentation with the agents present is more rapidly carried on to putrefaction—the active agent in yeast or ferment is Nitrogen. We shall proceed to examine the next substance in potato, that is, Starch. Potato contains from 8 to 14 per cent. of Starch, and

we find the composition of Starch to be 44.25 Carbon, 49.08 of Oxygen, 6.67 of Hydrogen. In the combination, these constituents are of such a nature that they are easily disturbed, particularly in contact with moisture and the aid of heat, when saccharine fermentation commences, and go through a regular set of changes, as Alcoholic and Acetic fermentation, and by an increase of temperature from 85 upwards to 160, putrefaction ceases, when a complete decomposition takes place, and a new set of compounds are formed in a gaseous state. Water acts by softening the texture, and thus counteracting the agency of cohesion. A temperature from 80 to 100 is most favourable for putrefaction. If we follow up the changes in the different stages of the vegetable, we continually find that an excess of moisture or heat, more than is required by the particular vegetable, by exciting its organs, produces death. And that in the absence of either of these agents the result is the same. In one case (heat and moisture present,) putrefaction commences immediately, and the decomposition may be completed in 24 or more hours, depending on the nature of the plant, and the degree of heat and moisture present. But it must be borne in mind, if the fruit or root has arrived at maturity, it is not so easily disturbed in its cohesion and combination, as the one which is just in the midst of its regular changes, when its organs are not matured and not prepared to reject any excess of sap, bringing with it food intended or required for a stage or stages beyond the one then in process, at the moment it is presented by the rise of temperature and water beyond its wants. The result is, that the conducting vessels become excited and expanded, and are not relieved by the receiving vessels; they burst—the plant dies, and as all circumstances for putrefaction are present, the elements are disturbed, particularly Albumen and Caseum, which bring on a general decomposition, and new arrangements are formed—this is very particularly the case with the unripe Potato.

But not so with the potato that has maturity. Its organs are completed, its cohesion more firm and not so easily acted on, so as to bring on immediate destruction; as it will be found that although water surrounding the Starch is slow in its action, and will require time to bring on a complete destruction, in this case it will be found to commence immediately under the Parenchyma, and gradually working to the centre; whilst on the other hand the unripe potato is affected throughout its whole body from the looseness of its cohesion. But at this point, why do we ever find matured potatoes decomposed in the hill? This is answered, by action of light, heat and moisture, as it is well known that Potatoes as well as Sugar Beet will undergo decomposition by exposure to light for a few hours after they have been taken from the ground—(there the Nitrogen, forming Nitric Acid, combining with the Potash.) We know that tannic and gallic acid, run into several changes by the rise of a few degrees of heat, and the action of the chemical rays of the sun.

For putrefaction it is necessary, 1st—that the force of vitality which governs so completely the mere chemical tendencies of the elements of our tissues, be removed; 2d—that there shall not be present any powerful chemical re-agent, with which the organized material may enter into combination, and thus the deviant tendencies of the affinities of its elements be overcome; 3d—that water be present in order to give the necessary mobility; 4th—that oxygen be present, or at least some other gas into

the space occupied, by which the gaseous product may be diffused; and lastly, that the temperature shall be within moderate limits, putrefaction being impossible below 32° and above 182°.



Covered 6 inches.		No. 5	Covered 2 inches.	
SOUND POTATO.			ROTTEN POTATO.	
Covered 6 inch.		No. 6.	Farht.	
Hill Side.	POTATO SOUND.	Moist. Atmos.	95	
		Corn,	90	
		Wheat,	75	
		Dry Potato,	60	
		Oats,	50	
Covered 6 inch.		Hay,	45	
MOISTURE.		ROTTEN POTATO.	No. 7.	

No. 1. Sound Potato, } These four Potatoes were of
 " 2. Partly Diseased, } the same planting and under
 " 3. Partly Diseased, } the culture of No. 5
 " 4. Rotten, } and 7.
 " 5. Is a row of Potatoes covered 6 inches at one
 end, Sound Potato—and covered 2 inches the other
 end, Rotten.

No. 6. Is a row on the hill side, which permitted
 the water to run off and filter—Sound Potato.

No. 7. Is a row at the bottom of the hill receiving
 the water of the hill, and from which no evaporation
 or filtration took place, the Potato all rotten, al-
 though they were planted on the same day and of
 the same kind of Potato, covered equally deep—
 temperature 95 Fahr't. and no evaporation.

No. 8. Is the scale of temperature and climate in
 which corn, wheat and potato will mature.

THE QUESTIONS PROPOSED BY THE MEM- BERS OF THE CLUB, WITH THEIR AN- SWERS.

1st.—Do all vegetables germinate and mature un-
 der the same degree of temperature and moisture?

Answer.—No, some require to be covered with
 water, others require a high and dry location, as
 each plant has its particular proportion of heat
 and oxygen for germination and maturing.

2d.—Does Corn, Wheat, and Potatoes require the
 same climate for germination and maturing?

Answer.—No; corn requires a high temperature and
 moist atmosphere. 2d, wheat requires a tempera-
 ture from 60 to 75 Fahren. Potatoes mature
 best from 60 to 70 Fahren. as evaporation of mois-
 ture from the earth takes place more rapidly at 60
 than at 80, and by evaporation the temperature of
 the earth is lowered.

3d.—What proof have we that potatoes mature
 under a temperature of 60 to 65?

Answer.—The potatoes which are grown on the
 Catoctin and Alleghany mountains of this state, are
 of a finer flavor and more mealy than potatoes raised
 in other parts of Maryland; the average temperature
 of these mountains is from 60 to 70.

4th.—When you speak of a dry atmosphere, do
 you mean an atmosphere without any watery vapour
 in solution?

Answer.—I mean an atmosphere which will receive
 more moisture than it contains at 60 degrees. As
 the atmosphere at 60 contains double the quantity of
 moisture that it does at 34, the atmosphere will con-
 tain double as much at 95 as it does at 60. The air
 is then saturated or full, and will receive no more
 moisture by evaporation. It is at this moment that
 the late planted potato suffers, as it has not matured;
 heat and moisture being present, its constituents are
 easily disturbed, and new compounds are formed. It
 is not only the potato which suffers, but a great vari-
 ety of fruits suffer under the same influence of the
 atmosphere. The manufacture of Chemicals suffers
 from the same cause.

5th.—How does it affect the potato, if the ther-
 mometer has been ranging for some days, at 90
 to 95, and a sudden shower of rain falls, and the wind
 calm?

Answer.—As the atmosphere is generally saturat-
 ed at 90 or 95, no evaporation takes place to lower
 the temperature of soil; the water becomes of a
 higher degree of temperature than the nature of the
 potato requires—the potato absorbs the heated water
 or vapour, and cohesion not having taken place, the
 vessels are expanded and burst, and particularly as
 the steam contains sufficient heat to have the effect
 of scalding—death of the plant is the result; all a-

gents being present, putrefactive fermentation immediately takes place, after which the fungus and worm or animalculæ are seen.

6th.—What difference is there in deep or shallow covering?

Answer.—If they are covered 6 inches at the last ploughing or hoeing, the best potatoes will be found at the bottom of the hill, as the temperature is lower, and if lightly covered, those on the top are affected by the light of the sun, and the warm vapour from the inner part of the hill; first as in the plate No. 5, the worm and fungus are found in the potato which has putrified slowly; the plate 6 shows a hill side from which the water filtered immediately, potatoes sound, and a fine crop. Plate 7 shows a row at the bottom of the hill, on which the water remained, and as the temperature was high, and no evaporation, those potatoes were completely destroyed in six days. They were planted from the same kind and on the same day as those of No. 6.

7th.—How are we to guard against the action of the atmosphere and sun?

Answer.—By planting early in April, and rolling the potato in Plaster of Paris. 2d, rotted manure and guano under the potato, or if unrotted manure, put on top of the potato, then covered with the earth; deep ploughing in clay soil to permit the excess of water to filter; when the potato has sprouted, use a top-dressing of plaster and unleached ashes on the hill. The ashes will be dissolved by the moisture of the atmosphere, and in filtering will render the insoluble salts soluble. The potashes are required for the potato vine. The plaster will be decomposed by the carbonate of ammonia, found in the rain water, or that formed by the decomposition of the animal matter in the soil, which will be retained by the soil for the use of the plant.

AGRICULTURAL IMPROVEMENT.

It is always a source of pleasure to the planter or farmer to witness the advance of agricultural improvement with his neighbors, and it makes his bosom glow with a spirit of emulation when he has lived for months at home, and often to himself said "his or that is worth looking at by my neighbor," and going abroad finds a friend has surpassed even his work, and in some matters his very imagining. It was so with me when I visited Mount Calvert for the first time since it became the property of Captain Brookes, of Upper Marlboro'. I was once in early life upon that estate when fox-hunting, wild rattle-brain, and remember its then condition perfectly. The deep ravines—the wide yawning gullies—the dilapidated dwelling—the sedgy fields—the impenetrable morasses—the then glorious fields for "hair breadth 'scapes"—the wild uncultivated waste for the wilder beasts' home and retreat—But lo! what a change. Corn and tobacco and wheat grow in profusion where once the kildeer whistled in disdain at its extreme poverty. The marshes and glades that mired many an unsuspecting grunter, are now cleared and dried; and bear timothy, upon which the lordly Durham and epicurian Leicester ewe graze in perfect security. Where once run the zig-zag branch, now flows the wide, straight canal. The broom-sedge has given place to the clover. The wild oats to wheat and the best of grasses—timothy. Even, well graduated, smooth, firm roads, well laid off and resembling turnpikes, take the place of foot paths and unconnected trails that none but the desperate rider in a fox-chase dare pursue. The whole face of nature on this farm has been changed, and changed for the better. No man deserved a premium

more worthily than Capt. B., although all this change has been accomplished at an immense outlay of change—to this opinion there is *namine contra dicente*. But as to the dwelling, &c. It is a retired, yet most commanding location. Situated upon a bluff of land on the Pautuxent, just where Charles' and Marlboro' branches empty within two hundred yards of each other into the Pautuxent river. The river in front of the house,—the two branches on the north east side, one of which washes the eastern enclosure of the garden; Bristol, with its bay craft lying on the opposite side of the river; Green landing seen a mile or so above, while Billingsley towers on a lofty hill across the Marlboro' stream, opposite Bristol, in Anne Arundel. The proprietor of this beautiful estate can, at a glance from his porch, see vessels in the river below; Bristol across the river; Billingsley and its inmates; Green Landing and its fishermen; the steamboats at his very door, landing passengers and delivering freight, so close that he could set in his chair and call to the captain and know who he had brought to visit him.—Could any man want more of this world's conveniences than he who owns Mount Calvert? And yet the owner wants more; for he is like all of us—who want something; some want money; some fame; some one thing; some another: aye sir, *some want a wife!*—The best fishing—the best shooting grounds are to be found at Mount Calvert. Any day the proprietor wishes a dinner composed of varieties, he can have it from the Baltimore market, supplied at his door without trouble, and fresh as when in town-market of Annapolis or Baltimore.

The farm buildings—utensils—stock—servants—even dogs are all well provided and 'kept in fine order.' The roads are the chief feature of all its many attractive beauties. They are well located and admirably made. The gates are painted. They left their marks upon the writer's gloves, that happened to be a new buck-skin pair. By the way, I thought a little more drying stuff in the paint would have been an improvement, when I looked at my stained gloves. The whole land has undergone a wonderful change for the better, and has become a "princely estate," evidencing the skill, judgment, and the "agricultural reading" of the hospitable owner, as much as it manifests his innate love of order, system and industry, connected with most excellent taste. Long may he live to enjoy the fruits of his well directed labor!

This has been written with no desire to flatter, but from a desire to stimulate many farmers who despair of improving their farms, and who are afraid to make an outlay in manures and draining, lest they ruin themselves by never reaping a corresponding benefit. Such were the sage predictions of your "old time practical men" in regard to Mount Calvert when the barren fields were first whitened with the lime heaps, and the ditches were just begun. But now these same "old codgers" are wondrous struck, and say "well it won't always happen so," still clinging to their old notions in spite of truth practically and powerfully illustrated before their eyes. To all my friends who are doubtful whether they shall spend \$100 or even \$1000 in fertilizing their soil by manures or draining, let me say—"hesitate no longer; go to Mount Calvert or to Col. Capron's farm, or any other farm where this course has been pursued, and you will not stop in doubt, but conviction will be certain that to lay out money in manure and draining and clearing your lands, is putting it in a safe bank that will return 20 pr. ct. the first year, and in 4 years return the capital two-fold.—*Marlboro' Gaz.*

THE AMERICAN FARMER.

BALTIMORE, APRIL, 1846.

Maryland Farmers' Club.

The next meeting of the Club will be held on SATURDAY, the 11th inst. at half past 11 o'clock, A. M. at the office of the President, in N. CHARLES ST. near Fayette.

Gentlemen disposed to join the Club are requested to signify their wishes to any of the members.

By order of JOHN GLENN, Esq. President.

SAM'L SANDS, Rec. Sec.

AGRICULTURAL WORKS—We have been making considerable additions to our stock of BOOKS on Agriculture, and kindred subjects—We have also a general assortment in various other branches of literature, and solicit a call from our friends of the country, when they have occasion to visit our city.

We keep also on sale, a good assortment of GARDEN and FLOWER SEEDS—and will receive orders for FRUIT & ORNAMENTAL TREES, VINES, SHRUBBERY, &c.—for the various Agricultural IMPLEMENTS & MACHINERY manufactured in this city—likewise for the improved breeds of CATTLE, SHEEP, HOGS, POULTRY, &c.—and for GUANO, PODRETTE, BONE DUST, &c.—Orders from a distance, to be addressed to SAM'L SANDS, publisher of the *American Farmer*, 123 Baltimore st.

It will be seen by the advertisement of Mr. Herman, that he is prepared to furnish his Screens for cleaning grain, to the value of which we directed attention some time since. K. SIX-CLARE, jr. & Co. are his agents in this city.

QUERCITRON BARK—A correspondent in James City Co. Va. asks information as to the kind of oak from which the Quercitron Bark is obtained, and its mode of preparation for market—It is made of the inner bark of the Black Oak, but as to the particular process, we must call upon some of our correspondents to answer, which we hope they will not fail to do.

NOTICES OF NEW WORKS.

COLMAN'S EUROPEAN AGRICULTURE, &c.—We have received the 5th part of this work. It comprises 29 chapters, embracing many subjects of interest to the agricultural public, viz: a continuation of remarks upon the markets of England—remarks on English farming—on the soil—theories of the operation of the soil—modern discovery in the compounding of manures—remarks on the soils of Great Britain—classification of soils—physical properties of the soil—peaty soils and the progress making in their improvement—loamy soils—humus or vegetable mould—peculiarities of soil—application of chemistry to agriculture—actual improvements—ploughing—the English character—the perfection of ploughing—account of a ploughing match at Saffron Walden—general rules for ploughing, embracing the various methods pursued in different parts of Great Britain and on the various kinds of soil there found, as lapping in ploughing, ribbing or rutting, laying in beds or stitches, the lazy-bed cultivation, correct ploughing, trench ploughing, subsoil ploughing—and successful experiment in subsoiling heath land—a chapter on improved agricultural machinery, which is embellished and illustrated by various cuts of favorite implements now in use in England, as Smith's sub-soil plough, Rackheath subsoil plough, Rackheath subsoil plough, Lord Somerville's double mould board plough, seed harrows, Biddle's extirpating harrow, Biddle's scarifier, Finlayson's self-cleaning harrow, Kirkwood's grubber, and Uley's cultivator—judging from the cuts, we believe many of these implements to be simple enough to be useful, while there are others wholly too complicated to be either effective or lasting—and a chapter descriptive of particular improvements which have come under the personal observation of the author—in one of these instances, the soil itself was almost created, at an expense of £110 an acre, and yet paid a good interest on the outlay.

There is much in the present part of the work which will not only interest, but prove instructive to the American reader.

We have laid off for insertion the first and second division of the chapter on the "physical properties of the soil," because in the course of a few brief remarks, we believe that professor Colman has upset what we have always looked upon as a dangerous theory promulgated by professor Liebig—we allude to his views *adverse* to the draining of wet lands—a theory which we have always considered as being the more dangerous, as it was set forth by an author of such distinguished reputation.

This work of Mr. Colman has received very extensive encouragement in the Eastern and Northern States, and we feel anxious to see a more extended circulation of it in this quarter—it can be examined at our Book and Seed Store, where subscriptions will be received—It is to be completed in 10 numbers at 50 cts. each, or \$5 complete, payable in advance.

[We learn from the publisher that the 6th number will probably appear early in May.]

TERCHMACHER'S ESSAY ON GUANO—This work will be found of much value at the present time, when so many are about using this manure—It is on sale at our store, price 25 cts.

A TREATISE ON MILCH COWS—A very interesting treatise on MILCH COWS, translated from the French by Mr. Trist, late Consul at Havana, and published in Skinner's Farmer's Library, will be published in a few days by Greely & M'Elrath, with the engravings, at 37 cents, in paper covers, or 63 cents full bound in cloth and lettered—It will be for sale at the bookstore of the publisher of the *American Farmer*.

THE BALTIMORE PATRIOT, one of the oldest and most respectable journals of our country, made its appearance on 1st of March, in a much enlarged and improved form—We rejoice to see this evidence of prosperity in our neighbors, and the more so as it is indicative of the increase of the business of our city. The "Patriot" ranks among the leading and most influential papers, and the ability and spiciness of its correspondence, has rendered it extremely popular, especially with the political party to which it is attached—We wish the Editor all success, for verily we do well know, that those who thus daily cater for the public, undergo labors which merit and should receive the most ample remuneration.

THE AMERICAN QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURE AND SCIENCE, conducted by Drs. EMME IS and A. J. PRIME, Albany, has been received—This is a most valuable library work, containing a vast quantity of instructive matter, from distinguished contributors, both scientific and practical, and so diversified as to render its many pages agreeable sources of varied information.

Dr. Fitch's writings on the wheat fly and other species of insects, with plates, with numerous other valuable papers on every subject bearing either directly or remotely on agriculture, by well known writers, and extracts from foreign agricultural works, present a table of contents as extensive as useful.

Subscriptions received at this office for the above work, at \$3 per annum.


"A PHRASE BOOK IN ENGLISH AND GERMAN, with a literal translation of the German into English, together with a complete explanation of the sounds and accentuation of the German—by Moritz Erthechter, teacher of the German language in the city of New York: 3d edition"—A copy of this work has been received through Messrs. Taylor & Co.; its title sufficiently indicates its character, and we should suppose it would be found a valuable auxiliary to those desirous of acquiring a knowledge of the German language.

THE NATURALIST, and Journal of Agriculture, Horticulture, Education and Literature, is the title of a new publication, conducted by members of the faculty of Franklin College, Tenn. and into which the Tenn. Agriculturist has lately been merged. We hail the first No. of "The Naturalist" as the opening of a rich vein in the mine of science and field of Agriculture; and from the vigor with which the first shafts have been sunk, and the specimens of ore exhibited, we doubt not, it will prove an inexhaustible source of intellectual wealth to its readers.

PRESERVATION OF FRUIT.—The article on this subject in this month's journal, is a translation from the French. The translator is a professional gentleman of our city, distinguished alike for his literary acquirements and for his passionate devotion to the science of Horticulture. Thanking him for his very acceptable contribution, we may be permitted to indulge the hope that he will often interest our readers by his future labors.

FISH AS A MANURE.—As the season of herring fishing is about opening, we will seize the occasion to say to all those who may live on tide water and have fisheries on their shores, that they should not fail to avail themselves of this resource to manure their corn ground should they not have a supply of other kinds. A herring to the hill will afford sufficient nourishment not only to nurture the stalks of corn which may be grown on it, but to cause them to yield a prolific crop of ears—grain bearing ears. The fish may be applied broadcast, or in the hill. If applied broadcast, looking to the extension of the benefits of their virtues beyond the current year, about forty bushels per acre should be applied. If manure for the single crop be the object, a herring to the hill will be sufficient as stated above. In parts of England, fishes are freely used as manure, and never without producing the very happiest effects; and why should they not produce them? they consist chiefly of *coagulated albumen, phosphate and carbonate of lime and oil*, substances eminently calculated to sustain either animal or vegetable life; for we lay it down as an incontrovertible position, that that which will support animal life, will do the same thing with vegetable. For the corn crop we hold it that fish is an excellent manure; we say so, because we have proved it to be so by experiments fairly made in years gone by,—and from the experience of their excellence on the oat-crop in England, we have a right to say that they are equally good for that grain—we are authorized in stating, that *there*, by the use of fish as a manure, second rate land has been made to yield from 80 to 90 bushels to the acre.

It has been said by some that the effects of fish are evanescent, passing off with the first year; and the same thing we have often heard said of horse-manure, though we have universally seen the remark contradicted by results. In our own case, the effects of the fish we used were visible, manifestly visible, for four years after their application. But why should they be so transient as some allege? Certainly their bones, which contain the *phosphate and carbonate of lime* will operate so long as any portion of them remain unchanged, and as to the *albumen and oil*, we can discover no good and sufficient reason to justify the opinion, that they would be consumed by the first crop. But even if it were true that the effects of fish would last but for a single year, the cost of manuring an acre with them to the owner of a fishery would be so trifling, compared with that of stable or barn yard manure, as to render it an object of interest to use them in preference to the former. The saving in hauling alone, to say nothing of that of spreading, would more than defray the expense of catching the fish. An ox-cart would carry as many fish to the field as would manure an acre, whereas it would require 20 loads of stable or barn-yard manure to produce an equal effect.

 Let your salt reservoirs and boxes be smeared with TAR. A little of this substance on the nose of a sheep may prevent its death. Try it.

BENSON'S PATENT WATER RAM.—Our attention has been directed to an improvement on the Water-Ram, recently brought to the notice of the public, by Mr. B. S. BENSON, of Harford county, Md., and having learnt that our friend *Cheyney Hoskyns, Esq.* of Harford, one of the Vice Presidents of our Club, had erected one on his farm, we addressed him a note of enquiry on the subject, and received the following reply thereto, which we take pleasure in laying before our readers, feeling confident that they will agree with us, that few inventions of this inventive age, will be hailed with more satisfaction, not only to the farmer, but to the public in general, than this—costing as it does so small an outlay, as to bring it within the reach of every landholder.

Harford Co. Md., March 19th 1846.

Dear Friend :—Your request relative to the usefulness of the improved ram of B. S. Benson for raising water, shall be complied with.

I had one of them put up on my farm, and I pronounce it to be the best mode of raising water that I have ever seen or heard of; it is simple in its construction, and of course not so liable to get out of order as more complicated machinery, doing more work than can be done in any other way yet invented with the power.

I have a fine spring on my farm which passes through a $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch lead pipe, making the power for driving the machine, with a fall of about 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet—a part of this water is thrown up to my house, through a $\frac{1}{2}$ inch lead pipe, and furnishes us with a sufficiency of water for our stock, as well as the household purposes.—The distance that the water is thrown is 445 feet, the perpendicular height about 75 feet—all done by the power of a good spring; where springs are not sufficiently strong of themselves to afford power to drive, and water for the use of farm buildings, a small stream of branch water may be used for the power, whilst the spring water can be introduced and driven to the buildings without mixing with the branch water—giving at all times clean, cool, spring water for the various uses about the house. And I do not hesitate to say, that he who has once seen in operation, one of those machines, and loves a clean house, will not fail to place within the power of the female, that element most needed for that purpose. There might be a great deal said about the convenience afforded, but it is sufficient when I say, that I can have water from the garret to the cellar.

Yours, &c.

CHEYNEY HOSKINS.

We have received from Mr. Benson, a drawing and description of his Ram, which will be found on another page.—The cost, delivered in this city, is \$30—A $\frac{1}{2}$ inch lead pipe will discharge 25 bbls. in 24 hours, the cost of which is 6 cents per foot. Printed directions accompany the machines.

FATHER MATHEW.—We learn that this eminent prelate, who has done so much for the cause of *temperance in Ireland*, is now engaged in the commendable labor of instructing his people in the preparation of bread and other dishes from Indian meal, with a view of rendering its introduction among the peasantry of his suffering country acceptable to them. Among the dishes which we see it stated, he is teaching them how to prepare, is that of *stirabout*—an old fashioned, but nevertheless a good one, and by no means a hard one to take under the promptings of a keen appetite.

REDUCTION OF THE DUTY ON INDIAN CORN IN ENGLAND.—In our last month's number we alluded to this subject, and inadvertently stated the *quarter* measure to be 8 lbs., whereas it should have been 5 bushels—a very different affair altogether. The contemplated duty of a *shilling* a quarter on Indian corn, will bring down the present high rate to about 3 cents a bushel, a *rate* which will not in the least interfere with its being exported freely from this country to the three kingdoms of England, Ireland, and Scotland, in times of scarcity there, to a very considerable extent, and at all times to such an extent as to render it an object to our corn growers. In times of *carcity*, the superior *cheapness* of Indian corn will point it out as the substitute to be adopted, upon the score of economy, over the wheat of the *Baltic* and *Black* seas, and when the working classes of those three kingdoms shall have become familiar to its use, in the numerous ways which its meal may be used in cookery, and as breadstuff, we feel assured that its excellence and economy will not fail to continue its use, even in periods where scarcity does not exist—for even here, when short crops of wheat are comparatively few, corn bread finds its way, in some of those many ways in which it can be prepared, to the best tables in our land. But if a fair experiment shall be made in the kingdom of Great Britain during the present season of its virtues as a fattening food for stock intended for the shambles, we are sure that its *superiority* over those vegetable substances now in use there will cause it to become a favorite, and enable it to get such a hold upon the judgment of British feeders, as to make its export an object of great moment, for however excellent the meats of England may be when fed upon bean and pea-meal, oil-cake, hay and turnips, the Indian *corn-fatted* will be held so superior in flavor and solidity as to bring it into universal consumption, and thus will a permanent market be opened for a very large portion of our surplus corn-crop. In *wheat*, however, except in periods of *scarcity* such as now exist, we cannot expect to successfully compete with the growers bordering on the Baltic and Black seas, because of their proximity and the cheapness of labor, both of which causes will operate to give them an advantage over our country in supplying the British markets—nor are we sure, that under Sir Robert Peel's new tariff arrangements, that much of the trade now enjoyed by the wheat growers of the west, through the Canadas, will not be materially broken up.

FALL GRAIN.—From all the inquiries which we have made, we are induced to believe that the fall sown grain has withstood the winter well. Our information, with but few exceptions, is to this effect. It is however yet too early to form any decisive opinion as to the ultimate results—whether the *wheat* crop shall turn out a *large*, a *fair*, or a *short* one, is yet a problem not of easy solution, as the *frost*, the *fly*, and the *rust*, may still come to disappoint hopes however sanguinely formed, and despoil the husbandman of the anticipated reward of his labor. There is no crop more uncertain than that of wheat, or which so often puts to blush the best formed judgments—none more liable to be affected by those unfavorable contingencies which may occur up to within a few days of the maturation of the grain, and as such is the case, we repeat, that it is too early to form any well grounded opinion as to how the present one may turn out.

MANURED AND UN-MANURED LANDS.—Dr. Granville, in his report to the "London Thames' Improvement company," gives the following estimate of the relative product of unmanured and manured land, as also the relative value of several kinds of manure.

If, says the Doctor, a given quantity of land without manure will produce 3 times the seed sown, then the same quantity of land if manured with old herbage, &c., will produce

7	times the seed if manured with cow dung,
9	" " " " " " " " pigeon dung,
10	" " " " " " " " horse dung,
12	" " " " " " " " sheep or goats dung, and
14	" " " " " " " " human manure, or bullocks' blood.

This table, brief as it is, is valuable, because it is to be presumed that Dr. Granville would not upon light grounds venture upon a statement of the kind in an official paper.

GUANO ON RICE.—We take great pleasure in giving place to the following extract of a letter from a most intelligent gentleman and practical Planter at the South, giving the result of an agricultural experiment made during the past year. The facts as detailed may be relied on. That the Guano properly used will be of vast importance to most of our lands, there can be no doubt. We understand quite a number of Planters in this vicinity, are using it the present season, and we should be glad if they would communicate the result of their experiments for publication. But to the extract:—*Savannah Rep.*

"One-fourth of an acre was trenched in the usual way, and the Guano sprinkled along the trenches at the rate of two hundred pounds to the acre in the first seven rows, three hundred and fifty in the second, and so on successively. The Guano was slightly covered with soil, and the seed sown over it at the rate of two-and-a-half bushels to the acre. The seed was then covered as usual and the field flowed for four days. To ascertain whether the immediate contact of the seed with the Guano would prove injurious, seven rows were left, without covering the Guano before sowing the seed. The whole row came up remarkably well, and there was no difference between those portions where the seed was in contact with the Guano and those where they were separated by a layer of soil. During the early stages of the plant the superiority of that part of the field which was manured with Guano, was most striking in the colour, height and thickness of the Rice over the unmanured portions; but towards the end of the season the difference was less marked, although the superiority was very apparent. There was no perceptible difference between the rows manured at the rate of two hundred pounds to the acre and those of three hundred and fifty pounds.

"At the harvest, equal quantities of land were cut on either side of the manured portions, and the Rice from each was carefully threshed, measured and weighed. The result was that the fourth of an acre manured gave sixteen-and-a-half bushels Rough Rice, or at the rate of sixty-six bushels to the acre, while the adjoining manured land, which was of a similar quality, gave at the rate of fifty-three bushels to the acre. The Rice manured with Guano also weighed two pounds more to the bushel than the unmanured."

PRESERVATION OF FRUITS.

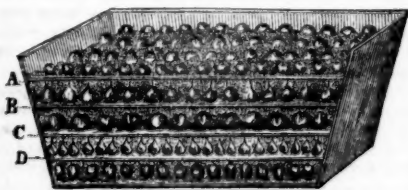
To the Editor of the American Farmer :

SIR,—I imported last year from Paris, a work upon the "Preservation of Fruits," descriptive of a method discovered by M. Victor Pâquet, to whom has been awarded the medal of the Royal Society of Horticulture of Paris, and that of the Horticultural Society of Meaux. The book is not the production of a scholar, nor does it lay claim to scientific dignity, and for the most part is taken up with the general subject of fruits, their various kinds, and their cultivation. That part of it which gives the new mode of preservation, I translate and send you for the benefit of your readers.

D.

"Much has been written about the preservation of fruits by different methods; but until now, the receipts which have been given to the public have presented many insurmountable difficulties in practice, and have produced very unsatisfactory results.—Science also has been brought to bear upon it, and both chemistry and natural philosophy have been laid under contribution. Boxes of lead, vases of glass or of pottery, have in turn been recommended; but the public—the great mass, the small cultivator and the amateur, will have nothing to do with what is complicated; with them nothing is attractive but that which conforms to the beautiful simplicity of nature, and it is upon this ground that our method lays claim to public favour.

Figure of a Box or Chest for the preservation of fruits.



A simple oaken box, of which the above is a representation, is all the apparatus necessary to procure the enjoyment of the fruits of autumn in the following spring. This box is to be constructed in any way which convenience may dictate; I recommend, however, that it be made small, rather than large, and that for a reason which I shall hereafter explain. The one above represented is 60 centimetres (2 feet) long at the bottom, and 66 centimetres (2 ft. 2-4-10 in.) at the top. Its interior width is about 33 centimetres (13 2-10 inches.) Its height is also arbitrary; the one in the engraving is represented large enough to contain five tiers of fruit, which is one more than we have ever put into our boxes, our largest containing but four tiers; but the number is not material. Our boxes are generally made smaller at the bottom than at the top, but this also is immaterial to the success of the operation; the reason why they are so, is because of the simple manner in which our boxes are constructed. This is a brief description of it:—We take a board of the width and length above mentioned,—the two extremities are sawed with a bevil. This board forms the bottom of the box. The two ends of the box are made of two boards of the width of that which forms the bottom—their height being arbitrary. Cleats are fastened to the ends with nails, as are seen in the cut at D, C, B and A. The distance between these cleats should be such that the partitions they are intended

to sustain, will be so far apart as to leave a space of some centimetres* between the fruit and the partition next above it, as may be seen by reference to the engraving. The two sides of the box should then be cut so as to fit, and be nailed to the boards forming the bottom and ends. In order the better to display the arrangement of the fruit in the interior, we have represented the box with one of its sides only. The shell of our conservatory being now made, nothing remains but to place within it the fruits we desire to enclose. We have at hand a sufficient quantity of saw dust previously dried by the heat of an oven, from which the bread has been withdrawn. With this saw dust we mix about one-eighth part of powdered charcoal, made from beech wood; the two substances are well mixed together at the moment we wish to employ them; we put at the bottom of the box a layer of this mixture, so thick that the fruit may be embedded within it to about two-thirds of its height. An inspection of the cut will shew that the fruit should no more touch in the box than upon the shelves of a well managed fruit loft. Instead of burying the fruit when the saw dust is on the bottom of the box, it is often easier to put a stratum of four or five millimetres thick (from 1 to 2 lines) and to place the fruit upon it. The interstices are then to be filled so as to cover the fruit as we have already stated, to about two-thirds or three-fourths of its height. The first tier of fruit being thus disposed of, we proceed to the arrangement of the second. I have already spoken of the cleats to sustain the boards as horizontal partitions, which convert our box into a building of four or five stories. The partition which we see at D, once placed on the cleats, should close the box so tightly that we can put upon this first story a bed of saw dust as thick as the one spread upon the bottom of the box. If necessary a little paper or other material may, without inconvenience, be applied to the joints to prevent the saw dust from falling upon the fruit below. This first story being treated as I have directed for the ground floor, if I may so express myself, we proceed with the others successively to the last. The top of the box ought to close it hermetically, and it is better to fasten it with screws than with nails, because the blows of the hammer necessary to drive the nails, may derange the order in which the fruit is distributed through the box.—The intelligence of the reader will direct him upon this subject.

Our box being closed, what are we to do with it? Is it to the cellar, or is it to the barn that we should carry it? I answer, that any place which is cool without being damp, dry without being warm, will answer perfectly to receive the box or boxes thus prepared. That which is essential to be observed is not to place the box in a position which may derange its contents, for we see there must be a space between each tier; this compels us always to keep the boxes in the position in which they are at first filled.

The fruits which we presented at the Horticultural exhibitions at Paris and Meaux, had been deposited in the boxes, at Rue St. Victor, No. 121, where we then resided, on the 7th of October, 1843. About one month after we carried them carefully to our new dwelling, Rue Roussellet St. Germain, No. 11. The boxes remained there, piled one upon the other, in a small room exposed to the North until the 15th of March of that year. The temperature then

*The centimetre is about four-tenths of an inch.

appearing to us to be too high, or about to become so, our boxes were deposited in a cool cellar, dark, but free from all dampness. On the ninth of June we examined to see if the number and beauty of our fruits would warrant us in letting the public judge of the results we had obtained. The first case we opened contained pears of the variety *Saint Germain*. Of a dozen placed upon the partition answering to the one marked C in our cut, not one was injured, as indeed we had foreseen, for this was the third repetition of the experiment. On the 11th of June all our fruits were submitted to the examination of the committee of the Royal Society of Horticulture of Paris. The beauty, the freshness, the perfume, which distinguished our seven admirable baskets of pears and of apples, admitted neither of competition nor comparison. It was necessary however to be assured of the culinary qualities of these fruits, so extraordinary for the season, and this the committee did by tasting all the varieties submitted to their examination. They were as unanimous upon their qualities as they had been upon their beautiful preservation. A silver medal was awarded to us, in public and solemn session held on the 16th June at the Luxembourg. The following is an extract from the report published by order of the Royal Horticultural Society:—

"Since its origin, the Royal Horticultural Society has always encouraged competition among those who should discover the means of preserving the fine table fruits for a period the most remote from the natural epoch of their maturity, by any means whatever. It is easy enough to preserve the form and the colour of kernel fruits, but it is very difficult to retain the perfume and the qualities which distinguish them; and it is upon this point that the Society particularly insists with experimenters. Two competitors have presented themselves at this exhibition; one with a hundred apples and pears, of very beautiful appearance, on the 12th of June; the other with a much smaller number. The committee have tasted some of the fruits of the first exhibitor, M. Victor Pâquet, and have found the perfume and flavour proper to their kinds; the committee have in consequence awarded the premium to M. Pâquet."

Some days after the exhibition at Paris, another Horticultural Society, that of Meaux, held also on the 23d June, an exhibition of the products of the garden. We were invited to visit it, and we profited by the occasion to take with us some baskets of fruit. At Meaux, as at Paris, the most flattering compliments were paid us, and the Society of the capital of ancient Brie, struck with the astonishing results obtained by our process, awarded us a new medal.

If it is necessary to add any thing further in favor of the superiority of the method I have just described, we will say that ordinarily, as every body knows, fruits, even those which ripen at their natural period, decay as soon as they are exposed to the air; ours have been exposed during six days to a suffocating heat, in a room crowded from nine in the morning till five in the evening, by many thousand people whose breath had contaminated the atmosphere. After being brought home again they remained eight days, when they were again packed for Meaux. They had to go a distance of nearly forty kilometres (about twenty four miles,) and the same to return; they remained also, as at Paris, for five days in a room where the air was heated and vitiated by the crowd. Part of these fruits were again returned to Paris, when, one month after the circumstances before narra-

ted, they were partaken of by persons eminently competent to judge of their merits; they all agreed that they found them excellent. This is explained by the care with which we had chosen the fruit intended to be preserved for so long a time, and above all by the simplicity of the process which we made use of; for, to speak properly, our preservation is not the result of a process (*procédé*) in the proper acceptation of that term, because we do not use the matters and substances generally employed in attempts, which for that very reason have proved inefficient and unprofitable, as they are complicated and unnatural.

The plan we have given of our boxes for preservation, is, as we have already said, arbitrary; the form is of itself nothing, every one being at liberty to adopt that which may seem most convenient to himself. Drawers, for example, would be more costly, but they would offer greater convenience, and a cabinet filled with drawers from bottom to top could not fail to produce happy results to its owner. The drawers should in that case be so deep that the stems of the pears, placed as they are seen at D and B in our engraving, should not be higher than the edge of the drawer, but might be as high. These drawers would be perfect if they had double bottoms. We have not yet explained why we make our boxes smaller at bottom than at top; it is because of the greater facility for placing the horizontal partitions in the interior, which would have presented a greater difficulty, the cleets being permanent, if the box had been as large at the bottom as the top.

We have been asked what is the particular office performed by the saw dust and by the powdered charcoal of beech-wood. We are going to give some explanations upon this subject, but not with any pretensions to answer the question *scientifically*. The day has arrived, when a fact being discovered, each one is at liberty to account for it after his own fashion.

If the fruits be placed alone in the box, there remains too great a space among them; if one should happen to decay, the evil extends to the next with a frightful rapidity. In a word, their preservation is not secured. If we cover them entirely, we lose more than if they remained simply as in an ordinary fruit store room. Those which keep, acquire a very unpleasant taste, vulgarly called *puckery* (*goût de mucre*), which means, in other words, that it is produced by a concentrated humidity.

As to the eighth part (about) of charcoal mixed with the saw dust, I ought to state here that for a long time I hoped to be able to use charcoal alone; but the fruit acquired in that substance a sort of smut which incorporated itself so intimately with the skin, that the fruit required to be washed, which did it considerable injury, and caused it to lose that freshness and brilliancy so agreeable to the eye. That may, it is true, be prevented, by wrapping each fruit in paper, but then we do not retain the qualities peculiar to each kind, and the preservation is less certain.

I do not pretend that the powdered charcoal is indispensable; I can think it perfectly useless when the boxes are placed in a perfectly dry place; but if they are placed in a cellar or in any other place a little cool or damp, it brings on that contaminating odour by which so much fruit is lost without our knowing how to guard against its fatal influence.

To preserve fruit in the manner we have just described, we must avoid enclosing them in boxes immediately after they are gathered; we should let them sweat a fortnight or three weeks in a dry place, which is at the same time cool and well aired. The

gathering should be conducted with the care and precaution which we have before spoken of. One condition essential to be observed in the preservation of fruits for a long time is, that we should not wait for the full ripening of the fruit before plucking it, but we should anticipate it by some days.

(To be Concluded next month.)

HOUSING AND CURING TOBACCO.

We copy the following communication from Judge Beatty, from the Louisville Journal:

Having had frequent applications for information as to the mode of housing and curing the celebrated Mason county cigar leaf tobacco, I have thought that I could best fulfil the wishes of my friends by giving the information desired through the medium of the Louisville Journal and Dollar Farmer.

The tobacco planters of Mason county invariably cure their tobacco without the application of artificial heat, except occasionally during damp and rainy weather; it is, therefore, of great importance to construct their houses so as to afford a free circulation of air through their tobacco when hung up. But as it is very injurious to tobacco to be exposed to dews and driving rains, while curing, it is necessary that tobacco-houses should be tight enough to guard against any injury from this source. The great desideratum, then, is, so to construct tobacco-houses as to protect the tobacco from the effects of rains and dews; and at the same time, afford a free circulation of air through every part of the tobacco-house.

To accomplish both these objects, and at the same time afford the greatest facilities and saving of labor in hanging tobacco, I recommend the following plan for a tobacco house, sixty by forty-five feet. The same plan will suit for a house of greater or less length than sixty feet, though, in the general, it would be better to increase the number rather than the size of tobacco houses, as they could thus be placed in situations more convenient to the ground in which it is intended to cultivate tobacco.

The plan of a tobacco-house sixty by forty-five feet. Let a piece of ground be selected as convenient as may be to the place where tobacco is intended to be cultivated, at least 60 feet long, without any inclination either way, or as little so as possible; and 45 feet in the other direction, with barely sufficient fall on the surface, *each way*, to carry off the water dripping from the roof on each side. Along the length-way of this ridge, let two rows of posts be set, parallel to each other, and twenty-one feet apart. The posts may be set in rows ten or twelve feet distant from each other. If the former distance be preferred, *seven*, if the latter *six* posts will be required in each row. These posts should be eighteen feet long, measuring from the surface of the ground, (if the ground is not perfectly level, the length of the posts must be so arranged as to bring all their tops to a horizontal level,) and tenanted on the top. Plates must be run from end to end on the top of these posts, (splicing the plates to make them long enough). The posts on the other side, must be connected together by cross-ties, (strong enough to hang tobacco on). The upper ties to be morticed in the plates, and secured by stout locust or oak pins. Another set of ties should be inserted so as to leave a space of four feet four inches, measuring from top to top. A third set of ties still four feet, four inches lower. Each of these, like the ties morticed in the plates, should be firmly secured to the side posts by mortices

and stout pins. These last ties will be about nine feet from the ground, and sufficiently high for a wagon and team to drive under them with convenience. A fourth set of ties should be inserted about five feet from the ground, one end let into the post by a mortice of the usual kind, and the other by a side mortice. These ties should not be pinned, but left unfastened, so that they may easily be taken out and laid aside when housing tobacco, so as to admit a wagon and team to pass through the house from end to end. The two ends of the building should be so framed as to admit of a double door at each end, wide enough for a wagon and team to pass entirely through. These doors must open outwardly, and in clear weather should be kept open when tobacco is hanging in the house, so as to admit a free circulation of air. The body of the house will thus admit of four tiers of tobacco. The rafters should be set on the plates, four feet from centre to centre, and by making them pretty taut will admit of two cross ties each for hanging tobacco on, and thus the roof will hold as much tobacco as one tier in the body of the house. To afford an abundance of air to the tobacco in the roof, there should be a door in each gable end, which should be kept open all dry days till the tobacco is perfectly cured. On the cross ties, connecting the two sides of the house, rails or sawed scantling should be laid, so as to admit four ranges of tobacco sticks, four feet two inches long. When tobacco is first hung, these sticks should be one foot apart from centre to centre. When the tobacco completely wilts, which it will do in a day or two after it is hung up, there will be open spaces, left between the different ranges of sticks, and thus the air may freely circulate from end to end, partly through the large folding doors, and partly through those in the gable ends. Allowing the sticks to be one foot apart, and admitting the roof to hold one-fourth as much as the body of the house, the contents of the whole will be one thousand five hundred sticks, or twelve thousand plants, supposing each stick to hold eight.

The above is a description of the main building, twenty-one by sixty feet. On each side of the main building should be a range of posts, corresponding with those in the main building, and twelve feet therefrom. These should be tenanted and have plates thereon, the tops of which should be about twelve and a half feet from the ground. These plates should be connected with the plates of the main building by rafters, spiked on to each plate, and also by three tiers of cross ties, the first ranging with the top of the side plates, and connecting with the posts of the main building; and the other two from post to post, each set four feet apart, measuring from top to top. The whole should be firmly connected by tenants and stout pins. These three ranges of cross-ties will admit of hanging three tiers of tobacco, on each side of the main building, and will hold one thousand and eighty sticks, and eight thousand six hundred and forty plants. It will be seen from the foregoing calculations, that the house will hold, at the first hanging, twenty thousand six hundred & forty plates. As the tobacco when partially cured may be closed up, so as to leave the sticks about 8 inches from centre to centre, the house by re-hanging will hold one-third more than the above number of plants, say about twenty-seven thousand five hundred.

The house should be enclosed with plank erect, and placed side by side, without lapping; pine plank, and that not seasoned, will answer best. This mode of covering the sides and ends of the house will suffi-

ciently secure the tobacco from the weather, and by the shrinkage of the plank will admit some air through the cracks. In planking up the sides it will be necessary to hew the outsides of the posts, and ship lap pieces of scantling for nailing the planks to. The top pieces, thus ship-lapped, should be inserted about twenty-inches below the side plates, and the planks on the two sides should extend no higher than to cover the pieces to which they are nailed. Thus there will be a space of twenty inches, under each of the eaves, for the admission of air. To prevent the rain from driving in at these apertures, broad plank should be suspended to the plates by hinges, so as to raise and let them down according to circumstances. Thus on each side, as well as at the two gable ends, air may be freely admitted.

The outside posts all around should be of locust or cedar, and firmly set in the ground. The inside ones may be set on broad rocks, having a firm foundation. For these shorter posts will, therefore, answer.

I have been assured that a house thus built, if well braced at the corners, will stand perfectly secure, *without setting any of the posts in the ground.* As, however, posts set on rocks, lying on the surface, would be liable to settle more at one place than another, I would prefer having all the outside posts planted about three feet in the ground. If locust or cedar posts are not to be had, I would recommend white-oak posts, well charred at the ends, as far as they are to be inserted in the ground.

Having completed the description of the house, I will add a few words as to the most economical plan of housing tobacco.

It should be placed on sticks in the field where it grew and hauled to the tobacco-house by hanging it across a long frame, say twenty-five feet, fitted up as a wagon-bed, and placed on wheels, coupled at a suitable distance. The frame should be about three and a half feet high, and the same width. On this frame the sticks may be crowded as close as may be done without bruising the tobacco. The wagon, thus loaded, should be driven through the centre of the house; and the sticks, having each the proper number of plants, should be transferred to the place to be occupied by them. When the two sheds and the main building are all filled except the two lower tiers of the latter, then the tier next above the ground tier should be filled on each side, with one range of sticks, leaving the middle still open for the wagon to pass through. When this is completed, so much tobacco should be hauled and unloaded as will be sufficient to fill up the second tier, and the whole of the ground tier. The second tier should now be completed, and then the cross tiers of the lower tier should be replaced, and filled with tobacco. A house, thus constructed and filled with tobacco as herein directed, will not require the application of artificial heat, and, therefore, nothing need be said on that subject.

A. BEATTY.

JERUSALEM ARTICHOKE.—As the cultivation of this root for hogs, sheep, and cattle is attracting the attention of farmers, we have thought it worth while to publish the following remarks from the Ohio Cultivator:

The artichoke is but very little known as a farm crop yet, and its properties and uses are not understood or appreciated as they should be. This root possesses a strong propensity to grow. It seems to thrive on almost every kind of soil, and is less affect-

ed by the seasons than any other crop with which I am acquainted. Of its ability to withstand frosts and severe drought, I had the fullest proof the past season. While all other crops in this section of country were nearly destroyed by these influences, my field of artichokes stood out in bold relief, as if in defiance of the worst weather that could blow; grew on and produced a splendid crop. As a root crop it possesses decided advantages over all others, in being more certain, and costing less in its production; while in point of value or nutriment, I believe it is not inferior to any—the opinions of some learned men to the contrary notwithstanding.

In addition to the value of the roots, the tops, when cut in season and rightly cured, furnish a large amount of fodder, (say from three to five tons per acre,) which is much relished by sheep, horses, and cattle; add to these advantages, it does not require planting after the first season, and the crop may be left in the ground all winter without any danger of injury from freezing; on the contrary, the roots are benefitted by the frosts of winter.

I have fed these roots to all kinds of stock, and they all seem to relish them much. The two last seasons I have fed them to my whole flock of sheep, and the effect evidently was to increase the growth of wool and cause the ewes to yield an abundance of milk, as shown by the large fleeces and the fine, thrifty and vigorous lambs. Previous to using artichokes, I fed potatoes in the same manner, but I give the former a decided preference.

I have tried several modes of cultivating the artichoke. The plan I would recommend is to put the ground in good order, as for potatoes or corn, then with a plough, open furrows four inches deep and three feet apart, as straight as possible, so that a plough or cultivator can work between, close to the rows. Then drop the sets ten inches apart in the furrows, (if large sets are used, they can be cut into pieces of three or four eyes each, like potatoes,) then cover with a plough, and smooth with a light harrow.

The after-culture to consist of a thorough harrowing about the time the first plants make their appearance, followed by two or three dressings with a cultivator on suitable intervals during the early part of summer—nothing more is necessary to ensure a good crop.

I generally leave the crop in the ground till the frost is out in the spring, I then plough the ground and gather all the roots that can be found, then plough again and gather again. When all are gathered that can be found in this way, there will be enough roots left to fill the ground with plants for a new crop. When the young plants appear above ground, all that is necessary to be done is to go through with a cultivator and cut them up in such a manner as to leave rows as when first planted. By repeating this cultivating two or three times, the work will be done for a second crop.

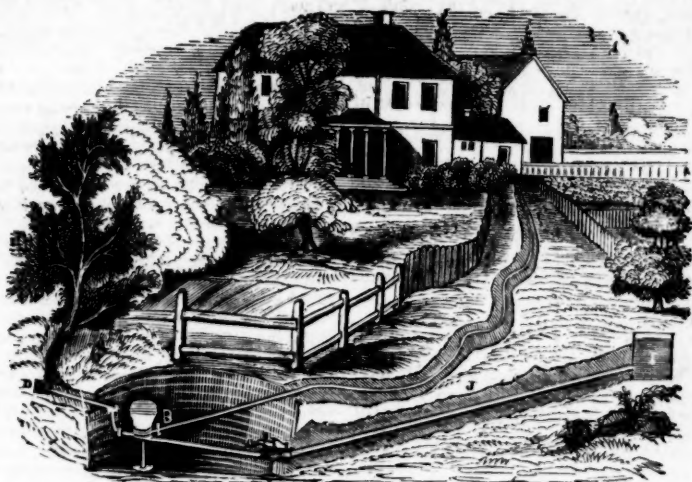
It is advisable to plant artichokes where they can remain for quite a number of years, as it is difficult to eradicate the roots from the ground, and, besides, the trouble and expense of replanting is thereby avoided.

It will, of course, be necessary to manure the ground occasionally, unless it is uncommonly rich. This can easily be done immediately after gathering the crop in the spring.

White washing.—Have your house, kitchen, cellar, garden fence, and the fence of the lane or avenue leading to your house whitewashed.

BENSON'S PATENT WATER RAM.

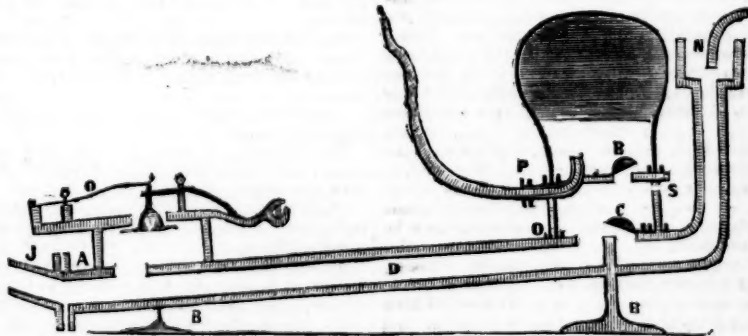
No. 1.



The above is a representation of *Benson's Patent Water Ram*, for raising Spring or other water for supplying Towns or Farms. By means of this Ram, persons having a small branch or spring, that will afford one gallon of water per minute, with a small fall, can have a portion of it, or any other water, raised to his house or barn, through a small leaden pipe. This Ram will raise twice the water that any other forcing pump will, with the same water power

—there being only three valves to keep in motion, in place of the heavy water-wheel and piston. This Ram can be driven by branch water and raise spring or branch water to the house at pleasure, by turning a stop, without any derangement of the Ram, and is very simple and easy to keep in order—the valves being faced with leather and easy of access, can be replaced by any farmer—there being no other part that can wear.

No. 2.



Description of the Cut—No. 2.

V, is an impetus valve in chamber A, opening inwards—when open permits the spring water to flow from reservoir, N, through valve C, and driving the branch water out of the end of pipe D, that having acted as a piston in the last stroke. Also permitting the branch water to flow from reservoir I, (to be seen in cut, No 1,) to flow through the pipe J, and passing through the opening of the impetus valve V, with increasing velocity closes the valve—thus suddenly shutting off the escape of water. The Ram pipe J, being, say 50 feet long and 6 feet fall, filled with water, being nearly an uncompressed fluid, exerts

its force against the column of spring water, in pipe D, as a piston forcing it into chamber O, and closing valve C, driving it up through the air chamber valve B, the air chamber being supplied with air for a spring, receives the water, and gradually presses it up through pipe P, to the required height,—when the waters in the long Ram pipe has spent its powers, the superior height of water in pipe P, causes the water in pipe J, to recoil, and a small portion to re-pass the valve, and drive the water back in pipe J, though in a rising position, continues to flow a short time after the air chamber valve has closed, and forming a vacuum in the Ram, the pressure of the

atmosphere and a small spring, O, to rebound, the valve causes it to open,—the water again flows through the opening, and closes the valve as before mentioned; thus the impetus valve continues to vibrate by the combined action of the water and air in the Ram, and drives a portion of the water up at each stroke. The set screw M, is for setting the valve to suit the quantity of driving power. The small hole S, is for admitting air for supplying the air chamber.

Persons wishing to know how much water a given stream will raise, must find how many times higher the water is to be raised than the fall of the driving power; then by adding a cypher to the number, and dividing by 7, can ascertain the number of gallons that will be required to force up a single gallon of water.

In one instance, a gentleman having a spring of water in a meadow 1000 feet from his house, and 65 feet perpendicular depth below it, by the power of a small branch of impure water, that affords 5 gallons per minute, with a fall of 8 feet, has 720 gallons of pure spring water per day delivered into a reservoir in his kitchen by means of this simple apparatus.—From this reservoir, by a lead pipe, all the water not used in the family, is conveyed from the reservoir into a trough in the barn yard, where the coldest weather never freezes it, and where his cattle have a copious supply of water during the whole year. In another instance, with a stream of water with 9 feet fall, the water is elevated to a height of 156 feet.

Address B. S. BENSON, Jerusalem Mills Post Office, Harford County, Maryland.

From the New Genesee Farmer.

CLOVER.

There are 7.7 lbs. of ash in 100 lbs. of dry clover. If this crop be taken from a field for a number of years, without making restitution, it will be found quite exhausting, notwithstanding the power of clover to draw its organic nourishment from the atmosphere. An acre of stout clover, when perfectly dry, has been known to weigh 3693 lbs. of ash. This is some 80 lbs. more than is removed from an acre in a fair crop of wheat. It is useful to study the mineral elements of this plant in connection with those of wheat. In 284 lbs. of the ash of clover there are of

Phosphoric Acid, - - -	18.00 lbs.
Sulphuric Acid, - - -	7.00
Chlorine, - - -	7.00
Lime, - - -	70.00
Magnesia, - - -	18.40
Potash and Soda, - - -	77.00
Silica, - - -	15.00
Oxide of Iron and Alumina, - - -	00.90
Carbonic Acid, - - -	71.00—283.9 lbs.

Throwing out of the account the 71 lbs. of carbonic acid, we have 213 lbs. of earthy matter. An acre of wheat needs, to form both seed and straw, 17 lbs. of phosphoric acid. An acre of good clover will furnish 18 lbs. That quantity of wheat needs 2 lbs. of sulphuric acid. An acre of clover will supply 7 lbs. The former needs 1 lb. of chlorine—a substance that forms 60 per cent. in common salt. Clover will furnish 7 lbs. Wheat (an acre) needs 16 lbs. of lime. Clover will supply 70 lbs. Wheat needs 13 lbs. of magnesia. Clover will supply 18 lbs. Wheat needs 24 lbs. of potash and soda; (and an excess.) Clover will furnish 77 lbs. Wheat needs 121 lbs. of silica; of which Clover can furnish only 15 lbs. Ex-

cept silica, or sand, it will be seen that an acre of good clover yields all the several minerals needed by a crop of wheat; and some of the most valuable ones, in large excess. In its organic elements, the supply is not less abundant.

	Carbon.	Oxygen.	Hydrogen.	Nitrogen.
Clover has in 3693 lbs.	1750	1396	185	78
Wheat crop 3124	1487	1352	171	33

It is particularly worthy of note that Clover yields more than twice as much nitrogen as both the wheat and straw require. It is proper to state that to make 3693 lbs. of perfectly dry clover, one must have 4675 lbs. common clover hay. But in plowing in clover for wheat, we gain all the stubble and roots, in addition to what the scythe clips in mowing.

It is not enough to apply gypsum to poor land to secure a large yield of Clover. In addition to deep, and thorough tillage, on many soils the application of wood ashes, lime and common salt will be found extremely useful. These are nearly identical in character with those found in the ash of this plant. Instead of plowing clover in, and mixing it up with the soil as a fertilizer, a portion of it can be made into mutton, wool and cheese, to good advantage. In the states of Ohio and Indiana where large herds of swine are raised by some farmers, much use is made of good clover pasture, to keep the growing animal, from the time they are ready for fattening. Note the large per centage of the phosphate of lime to form the bones of young animals, and the earthy portion of their membranes and muscles, and the liberal supply of organized nitrogen to build up all nitrogenous tissues, and you will see the great value of this plant for the nourishment of all garrivorous animals. No person in the habit of reasoning from cause to effect, would ever expect food like pure starch, oil or sugar, (which do not contain a particle of nitrogen,) to form muscles and membranes, that always have some 14 or 15 per cent. of their dry weight, of this peculiar element. A hen cannot form a hard shell to her egg without lime, nor can a pig make bone without the phosphate of the same material.

A dog fed exclusively on starch, fat, or sugar, or on any compound of the three, and water, invariably dies before many weeks, from starvation. He cannot change these compounds of carbon, oxygen and hydrogen, into those portions of his system which require nitrogen.

The following analyses of lean meat, wool and cheese, will show how admirably clover is adapted to the production of those articles.

Physiologists distinguish three principal tissues in the bodies of animals; the Muscular, the Nervous, and the Cellular.

The muscular tissue was referred to by the common term, lean meat. It consists of an assemblage of contractile fibres, which acting on the bones as cords, give locomotion to the animal machine. Muscular flesh is always a compound substance; consisting of a contractile element called fibrine, albumen, fat, geletine, an odorless extractive matter, lactic acid, different salts, and the coloring principle of the blood. Fibrine, geletine, and albumen, all contain nitrogen. 100 parts contain of

	Carbon.	Oxygen.	Hydrogen.	Nitrogen.
Animal Fibre,	52.8	23.7	7.0	16.5
Wool,	50.65	24.61	7.03	17.71
Casene, (cheese),	53.5	23.7	7.0	15.9
Dry Ox Blood,	54.0	21.3	7.2	15.1
Horn,	51.99	24.10	6.72	17.28

There are 2 lbs. of nitrogen in 100 lbs. of dry clover. Hence, if all the nitrogen in this plant went to

repair the daily wear and tear of muscle, in a sheep, calf, or horse, it would require 825 lbs. of dry clover to make 16.5 lbs. of dry muscular fibre; or 100 lbs. to form 2. But there is no reason to suppose, that the whole of the nitrogen contained in food, goes to form the nitrogenous tissues of the system. More or less passes off without benefit to the animal. By carefully weighing the food consumed by different animals, and weighing them to learn the precise gain for every 100 lbs. of hay, grass or provender consumed, we may ascertain whether a pig, sheep, or steer, gains the more muscle and fat for any given amount of food. From the very thorough manner in which sheep digest their nourishment, and from general observation, there is not much doubt in regard to the fact, that this animal will elaborate rather more good meat from 100 lbs. of grass, and particularly clover, to say nothing of its fleece, than any other animal kept by the farmer. Be that as it may, taking the wool into the account, and the short time required to bring sheep to maturity, or into productiveness, there can be no question of their great value when skillfully managed. That sheep can become fat on good clover, may be inferred from the circumstance that 100 lbs. of that plant contain 4 lbs. of oil, according to M. Boussingault. To yield this, it must be early cut, and cured in the very best manner. In ordinary crops, 30 lbs. of hay may be made from 100 of green clover.

If you winter your cattle mostly on straw, try and give them a little clover each day, because, in 333 parts of muscular fibre, the animal must have 54 parts, or 16.5 per cent., of this constituent of lean meat. It is because 1 lb. of clover hay is as good as 6½ lbs. of wheat straw to make into new muscles, or to repair the wear and tear of old ones, that I prescribe its use with straw, at least once a day in wintering stock. Remember that, in the dried blood of a young and healthy steer or heifer, there is 17 per cent. of nitrogen. In liquid blood there is a fraction less than 3 per cent. Hence, 1½ lbs. of perfectly dry and choice clover, will make one lb. of liquid blood, so far as nitrogen is concerned.

The science of forming pure, and healthy blood, both in man and beast, is sadly neglected in this age of great pretension, but of precious little sober thinking.

KIND & QUANTITY OF ADDITIONAL FOOD REQUIRED BY A GROWING ANIMAL.

The young and growing animal requires also that its food should be adjusted to its peculiar wants. In infancy the muscles and bones increase rapidly in size when the food is of a proper kind. This food, therefore, should contain a large supply of the phosphates, from which bone is formed, and of gluten or fibrin, by which the muscles are enlarged. Some kinds of fodder contain a larger proportion of these phosphates. Such are corn, seeds in general, and the red clover among grasses. Some again contain more of the material of muscles. Such are beans and peas among our usually cultivated seeds, and tares and other leguminous plants among our green crops.

Hence the skilful feeder or rearer of stock can often select with judgment that kind of food which will specially supply that which the animal, on account of its age or rapid growth, specially requires—or which, with a view to some special object he wishes his animal specially to lay on. Does he admire the fine bone of the Ayrshire breed?—he will try to stint it while young of that kind of food in

which the phosphates abound. Does he wish to strengthen his stock, and to enlarge their bones?—he will supply the phosphates liberally while the animal is rapidly growing.

An interesting application of these principles is seen in the mode of feeding calves adopted in different districts. Where they are to be raised for fattening stock, to be sold to the butcher at two or three years old, they are well fed with good and abundant food from the first, that they may grow rapidly, attain a great size, and carry much flesh. If starved and stinted while young, they often fatten rapidly when put at last upon a generous diet, but they never attain to their full natural size and weight.

When they are reared for breeding stock or for milkers, similar care is taken of them in the best dairy countries from the first, though in some the allowance of milk is stinted, and substitutes for milk are early given to the young animals.

But it is in rearing calves for the butcher that the greatest skill in feeding is displayed; where long practice has made the farmers expert in this branch of husbandry. To the man who has a calf and a milch cow, the question is, how can I, in the locality in which I am placed, make the most money of my calf and milk? Had I better give my calf a little of the milk, and sell the remainder in the form of new milk—or had I better make butter and give the skimmed milk to my calves—or will the veal, if I give my calf all the milk, pay me a better price in the end? The result of many trials has shown, that in some districts the high price obtained for well fed veal gives a greater profit than can be derived from the milk in any other way.

While the calf is very young—during the first two or three weeks—its bones and muscles chiefly grow. It requires the materials of these, therefore, more than fat, and hence half the milk it gets, at first, may be skimmed, and a little bean meal, may be mixed with it to add more of the casein or curd out of which the muscles are to be formed. The costive effect of the bean meal must be guarded against by occasional medicine, if required.

In the next stage, more fat is necessary, and in the third week at latest, full milk, with all its cream, should be given, and more milk than the mother supplies, if the calf requires it. Or, instead of the cream a less costly kind of fat may be used. Oil cake finely crushed, or linseed meal, may supply at a cheap rate the fat which, in the form of cream, sell for so much money. And instead of the additional milk, bean meal in larger quantity may be tried, and if cautiously and skilfully used, the best effects on the size of the calf and the firmness of the veal may be anticipated.

In the third, or fattening stage, the custom is with the same quantity of milk, to give double its natural quantity of cream—that is, to supply in this way, the fat which the animal is chiefly wished to lay on. This cream may either be mixed directly with the mother's milk, or what is better, the *offerings* of several cows may be given to the calf along with its food. For the expensive there might no doubt be substituted many cheaper kinds of fat which the young animal might be expected to appropriate as readily as it does the fat of the milk. Linseed meal is given with economy. Might not vegetable oils and even animal fats be made up into emulsions which the calf would readily swallow; and which would increase his weight at an equally low cost? A fat peas-soup has been found to keep a cow long in milk; might it not be made profitable also to a fattening calf?

The selection of articles of food which will specially increase the size of the bones in the growing animal, by supplying a large quantity of the phosphates, is at present limited in a considerable degree. The grain of wheat, barley, and oats is certainly and abundantly supplied to the animals that feed upon them. But in many cases corn is too expensive a food, and those kinds of corn which contain the largest proportion of phosphates supply only a comparatively small quantity in a given time to the growing animal. Why should not bone-dust or *bone-meal* be introduced as an article of general food for growing animals? There is no reason to believe that animals would dislike it—none that they would be unable to digest. With this kind of food at our command, we might hope to minister directly to the weak limbs of our growing stock, and at pleasure to provide the spare-boned animal with the materials out of which a limb of great strength might be built up.

Chemical analysis comes further to our aid in pointing out the kind of food we ought to give for the purpose of increasing this or that part of the animal body. Thus in regard to the same growth of bone, it appears that, while *linseed* and *other oil-cakes* are mainly used with the view of adding to the fat, some varieties are more fitted at the same time to minister to the growth of bone than others are. Thus four varieties of oil-cake examined in my laboratory, contained respectively of earthy phosphates and of other inorganic matter in 100 lbs. the following quantities:

PER CENTAGE OF	
Earthy phosphates.	Other inorganic matter:
British linseed cake, 2.86	2.86
Dutch, do 2.70	2.54
Poppy cake, 5.22	1.24
Dodder cake, 6.67	3.37

The numbers in the first column, opposite to poppy and dodder cake, show that these varieties of oil-cake contained a much larger proportion of the phosphates than the others did, and consequently that an equal weight of them would yield to growing stock more of those substances which are specially required to build up their increasing bones.—*Johnson's Agr. Chemistry.*

CUT WORMS.—To the remark that "cut-worms may be destroyed by continued tillage, and a naked and open soil," I beg to say, the cut worm would not be found in corn, were it not planted in sward or sod land. They are the progeny of a species of beetle, or other insect, which could never propagate its kind without the aid of dung, which is found in grass that have been fed to horses or cattle, and in this they enclose their egg or eggs, and sink them in a given distance below the surface; hence an autumnal or winter ploughing of such land destroys them, by exposure to the rains and frosts of that inclement season a doctrine which has at least met with the concurrence of every practical man among us.—*Boston Cult.*

FOUR ROT.—C. W. S., in the English Agricultural Gazette, directs the hoof to be cut away sufficiently at the lower part to permit the escape of any matter that may be confined, and that the diseased part be touched, by means of a feather, with a little hydrochloric acid, which may be repeated if any fungus flesh grows on the part; if otherwise, the sore may be dressed daily with a powder of equal parts of sulphate of copper, alum, fine charcoal, and Armenian bole. The sheep must be kept in a clean dry place; dirt and moisture are prejudicial.

HORTICULTURAL.

WORK FOR APRIL IN THE GARDEN.

Cabbage plants.—It is time that your early cabbage plants were set out, therefore have a bed nicely prepared for their reception. In the first place, manure it well, then have it dug deeply and raked finely,—that done, set out your plants two feet apart each way, and see that they are afterwards kept clean, hilled when needed, and the ground kept open until you give them the last hoeing. If, however, you have no plants, buy some, if only a hundred, in order that your family may be ensured in an early supply of this excellent vegetable.

Peas and Beans.—Plant a bed of each of these vegetables for family use.

Celery.—Sow celery seed, in order that you may have a timely supply of plants.

Carrots, Parsnips and Beets.—For early use, it is time that you were getting in seeds of each of these excellent roots.

Rhubarb or Pie-plant.—Buy a dozen or two of plants of this excellent vegetable. Two dozen will be sufficient to supply your family for pies. No garden should be without it, as the syrup made from it is an excellent remedy in the summer complaints of children, besides its admirable property as a substitute for gooseberries in pie-making.

Gooseberries and Currants.—Trim off the superfluous branches, dig in a little rich rotten manure around the roots, taking care to not dig too nigh the roots, lest you injure them.

Raspberries.—These should now be trimmed and tied up.

Strawberry Beds.—Clean these off, dig in a little well rotted stable manure, rake between the rows, then spread long straw along them, being mindful to confine the edges with wooden pegs.

Horse Radish.—Plant a small bed of this excellent root, selecting a moist spot.

Early Potatoes.—If you have not done so already, forthwith get in a bed of these.

Tomatoes, Egg plants and Oyster plants.—Select a border facing the sun, manure, dig and rake it well; this done, sow seeds of each of these vegetables.

Radishes, Lettuce and small salading.—Sow seeds of these without delay.

Herbs, pot and medicinal, must now be sown or planted out.

Shrubbery of all kinds should be planted out, after being set in the ground; if the weather should become dry, water them twice a week until a rain shall come to save you that trouble.

Fruit trees in the Garden.—Let the trunks be painted as we recommended last month—and if you have none there, go at once to a good nurseryman, buy some and have them set out, as no good farmer or planter should suffer his garden to be without a few choice fruit trees.

Shade trees—Have you a full share of shade tress about your dwelling? If not, procure some and have them planted forthwith.

Honeysuckles and all other creeping vines should be trimmed or planted out.

Grapes.—Though it is full late, grape vines may still be pruned, provided you stop the bleeding by applying a potato upon the top of the wood.

Flower seeds and Bulbs.—Sow the former and plant out the latter as soon as possible.

We have thus concluded our monthly memoranda, and wishing you all luxuriant crops, a well stored garden, health and happiness, we bid you good night.

FRUIT TREES IN THE SOUTH.

Results of experiments in the cultivation of the Pear Tree in the Southern States; with some remarks on the diacious character of the Strawberry. By ROBT. CHISHOLM, Esq., Secretary of the Beaufort Agricultural Society, Beaufort, S. C.

As I have, this summer, for the first time, gathered fruit from pear trees I imported from Europe a few years since, I have thought that the results of my experiments, as obtained thus far, might be interesting to you, and encourage those who have begun already to cultivate this fruit to continue, and induce others to begin at once.

My situation is on what is called a Sea-Island, where fine long-cotton is grown, near this place, in sight of the ocean, across St. Helena Sound. The land, on which are my trees, is low, being very near and very little above high tide mark, cold clay, and originally very poor when I planted the trees. I dug holes in the clay about two and a half to three feet across, and about eighteen to twenty-four inches deep, into which my trees were set at the proper depth, and then filled in with one part of black mould and partially decomposed oyster shells, taken from small mounds near ancient Indian wigwams, and two parts of mould from under trees in the woods or forest; (live oak furnishes the best mould that I can get.) I had one St. Germain weighing one pound and one ounce; several weighing one pound, and a little more and less; one Bergamotte de Soulers or Solers, weighing nearly three quarters of a pound, the only one I have weighed, and without any selection whatever, as it is the only one I have before me and not selected; the others would probably average nearly half a pound. The Bon Chre'tiens d'hiver I have not weighed, but nearly as large; Virgouleuse, (true French,) Crassane and Epargne, about the same sizes; Epine d'Ete', Muscat Robert, Rousselet de Rheims, Grosse Marquise, Martin Sec, Imperial, and a few others that I did not have the names of. The St. Germain, Virgouleuse, Winter BonChre'tien, and Bergamotte, have been pronounced very fine pears, and I would willingly compound never to eat better fruit on condition of never having worse. The Epargne was mealy and tasteless, probably in consequence of having been allowed to ripen on the tree. The Summer Thorn was musky, but not particularly sweet. The Muscat Robert was much better, but of the others, except the Crassane, which was not very sweet but a little astringent, I could form no decided opinion, as they did not come to perfection. Of the Messire Jean, I had a number upon the trees, but they were all cracked, and I did not have one that was either ripe or good; probably the soil was too clayey for them. The Summer Thorn,

Muscat Robert, and Epargne, were ripe just as peaches were going out of season, the beginning of August. The BonChre'tien, St. Germain, Bergamotte de Soulers, and Virgouleuse, are all picked and full ripe now, but this has been an early season for fruits.

I hope next summer to have about thirty or more varieties in bearing, when I can again inform you of their qualities, &c., better. I have imported also apple trees which bear very fine fruit, but I cannot give any very exact account of them, as I visit my garden and plantation but once a week, and then have a plenty to attend to. I have not had one mealy or insipid one. The trees thus far are very healthy.

I find my trees much more clean, healthy looking and vigorous, than pear trees growing in this place, where the soil is high, dry and sandy. I forgot to mention above that my trees are well manured every autumn with stable or cow-pen compost, spread on the surface, and allowed to remain there, and the land is well manured and cultivated in vegetables. I weighed one pomegranate, (not as large apparently as some I gathered later,) and it weighed two pounds, five ounces; and I think I have some that will weigh more when gathered.

Seeing that the question about the strawberry plants being perfect or imperfect, is still unsettled in the public mind, I was forcibly struck with the strong confirmation of Mr. Longworth's assertion by Mr. Keen, in the cultivation of the strawberry, as quoted by Loudon in his *Encyclopedia of Gardening*, edition of 1822, page 822, § 1476, var. the Hautboy. As the truth is doubtless your object, you will render a service to the growers of this delightful fruit, by publishing what Keen says on the subject, though it militates against your opinion. I have never seen a male or perfect flower on any plant of your seedling, which I have been cultivating since about the time that Mr. Longworth's statement was first published in the *Cultivator*, and a friend, to whom I sent some of the plants last year or the year before, remarked to me last week in Charleston, that he had never seen so unproductive a variety of strawberry. I did not send him any other plants, nor did I apprise him of the fact, that for a good crop from them, it was necessary to have some other variety with male flowers in the immediate neighborhood of these plants.

I forgot to mention that I saw somewhere last winter, in Liebig, I think, that salt litter in the winter is beneficial to strawberry plants, and I attribute part of my success in raising strawberries to the saltiness, as well as the moisture and clayey texture of my soil.

Beaufort, S. C., Nov. 1, 1845.

We were highly gratified to receive the communication of our correspondent, detailing his experiments with the cultivation of the pear tree, because the success which has followed his efforts, will tend to induce others to introduce this most valuable fruit into the gardens of the Southern States, where till lately it was thought by many the pear would not succeed. In the south of France, the pear in most places grows well, and produces fine fruit, and we see no reason why similar success should not follow in the southern portion of our own country, with a similar climate, and a good soil. The experiment of Mr. Chisholm shows that success will attend every judicious and well-directed effort. We shall wait with much interest the results of another year's experiments, which, we trust, our correspondent will not omit to send us, agreeably to his intimations.

In regard to the strawberry, we should have no objection to publish the article by Mr. Keen, were it not familiar to many of our readers, and that it refers wholly to the *Hautbois* strawberry, a variety which is universally acknowledged as delicious. We do not think that one word can be found as to the delicious character of any other variety than the *Hautbois*, though our friend, Mr. Longworth, continually insists upon the male and female plants of Keen's Seedling.

It has always been our greatest wish to see the strawberry extensively cultivated, and we believe all will give us the credit for this, after the many years devoted to their culture, and the production of two seedlings which are of such acknowledged merit. Our views upon the unsettled question of sterile and fertile plants, have already been given, on several occasions, and in regard to our Seedling, more particularly. We there stated, that from some cause, whatever it might be, in certain soils and seasons, it would not produce fruit unless placed in near proximity; being convinced that a large and certain crop of fruit would be the result. It is in this view that we look upon the Boston Pine as quite invaluable, as this variety and the Seedling produced an immense crop side by side, and at least five hundred feet from any other strawberry.—*Hovey's Mag. of Hort.*

THE PLUM, NECTARINE, APRICOT AND ALMOND.—The Plum adapts itself readily to almost any where except in a clay, marshy, or very sandy location. A rich friable soil is however to be preferred, and where not so, it should be made so by culture. The plum, nectarine, and apricot, being smooth skinned fruits, are subject to the attacks of the curculio.—But if the trees are paved round as far as the branches extend or are planted in ground that is much trodden, and thus rendered hard and impervious to the insect, or if the ground around the trees is strewn with gravel, the insect will not be able to find shelter there, and consequently the tree will be free from its depredations. The different varieties of plums used in Germany, France, and Italy, for prunes, are very productive, and there would be no difficulty, if a proper locality were selected, in establishing extensive and profitable orchards for this object. The plum being exceedingly hardy would command a preference over other fruits, which do not flourish in an equally northern climate.

The NECTARINE, APRICOT, and ALMOND require a precisely similar soil and culture as prescribed for the peach. The nectarine is equally hardy, and the two latter equally as much so. In this latitude the apricot is most productive when planted in a location somewhat sheltered from the north and west, but many of the robust varieties exact no such precaution.

The culture of the almond could be successfully extended in the States south of the Potomac, and orchards planted there would require no more care than the peach, and would soon by their abundant crops supercede the necessity of importations of this fruit which are made to a very large amount. Pure Americanism will always aim at the production of every article requisite to our own comfort within our own national limits.

Flushing, Dec. 10, 1845.

W. R. PRINCE.

An hour's industry will do more to beget cheerfulness, suppress evil humors, and retrieve your affairs than a month's mourning.

LADIES' DEPARTMENT.

FLORICULTURE.

WORK FOR APRIL.

PREPARED FOR THE AMERICAN FARMER BY SAM'L. FEAST, Florist.

The garden will now be the chief object of attention—Attend to the putting of every thing in order with the utmost despatch; commence by clearing off all litter, &c. manuring and digging the borders, and finally, sowing and planting as necessity requires.

Hardy Annuals and Biennial Flower Seeds, may be sown any time this month—those intended for blooming where sown, as, *Mignonette*, *Dwarf Rocket*, *Larkspur*, *Hackweeds*, *Poppies*, *Candytuft*, *Flos Aconis*, *Tunisia*, *Sweet Sultan*, *Nasturtium*, *Sweet Peas*, *Convolvulus Minor*, *Nolanas*, &c. should be sown in patches, each sort separate.

Tender Annuals should be sown in pots of light soil, if not done before.

Peonias and other *Herbaceous plants*, may be transplanted now with safety.

Jacobean Lilies, *Gladioluses*, and *Tuberoses*, may be planted in the open ground.

Tulips, *Hyacinths*, and other spring bulbs, should be uncovered (if not already done,) and the ground stirred, in order to prepare them for blooming in May.

Dahlias, if wanted for early bloom, should be attended to as directed for last month.

Azaleas, now blooming, should receive an abundance of water. Repeat such as need it.

Camellias will now be growing, and should have a good supply of water at the roots, and frequent syringing over the foliage.

Pelargoniums should receive plenty of water and air, and when the flowers are expanded should be partially shaded from the scorching rays of the sun. Attend to fumigation when necessary.

Cactuses will be unfolding their gorgeous blossoms, and should receive occasionally a little guano water.

Mignonette, in pots, will require exposure to the air as much as possible.

Verbenas, *Stocks*, *Roses*, and other plants, in pots, should be attended to regularly. Give plenty of air and water, and if infested with green fly, fumigate with tobacco.

We copy from the N. E. Farmer the following extract from the proceedings of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, on the 28th Feb., by which it will be seen that a gold Medal (of the value of \$50) has been awarded to our townsman, by that society:

At a meeting of the Committee on Flowers, held this day, the subject of the new class of *Roses* produced by Samuel Feast, Esq., of Baltimore, was discussed.

The committee were unanimous in the opinion that some token of grateful remembrance is due to Mr. Feast, from the Mass. Hort. Society, for the valuable varieties of *Roses* he has produced by cross impregnation, particularly the "Queen of the Prairies," which has given so general satisfaction to florists and others, and for which they feel under great obligations to this enterprising cultivator.

Mr. Feast has given the type of a new class of roses, in his variety, *Rosa rubrifolia*, var. *Queen of the Prairies*. It is of the most hardy character; enduring the most severe New England winter, without injury, even to its tender extremities; of most luxuriant growth—making in good soils, 15 to 20 feet of wood in a season. The flowers very double; color,

light crimson, inclining to rosy lilac; produced in large clusters, on lateral branches; in bloom the beginning of July, after common hardy roses are out of flower.

This rose is without a rival, in our climate, for pillars, arbors, &c. Its only deficiency appears to be a want of fragrance.

We trust, by the farther efforts of Mr. Feast, we shall yet be in possession of a variety having this desirable quality.

It was voted that the committee recommend that the Society's *Large Gold Medal* be presented to Saml. Feast, Esq., of Baltimore, for the production of his seedling *Rosa rubifolia* var. *Queen of the Prairies*.

(Signed)

Jos. BRECK, *Chm'n.*

The Society voted to accept the foregoing report.

FAMILY RECIPES.

BRONZING.—Bronzing is a method of coloring wood or plaster of Paris so as to imitate Bronze.—First, the article is to be painted of a dark color, such as bronze acquires when it has been long exposed to the air, or when buried under ground. The color is produced by grinding a mixture of Prussian blue, verditer, and spruce ochre in oil. What is called bronze powder, sold in the shops, is now to be applied, just before the oil paint is quite dry, to the prominent parts, where the metal is supposed to have acquired some lustre by being rubbed against. The bronze powder is to be rubbed on by a ball of cotton wool, or in a similar manner. Bronzing has the advantage of wearing well, keeping clean, and giving effect to the colors.

TO MAKE A VERY STRONG CEMENT FOR EARTHEN WARE.—Boil slices of skimmed milk cheese with water into a paste, and then grind it with quick-lime in a marble mortar, or on a slab with a mallet.

TO CLEANSE A COIN OR METAL TARNISHED BY QUICK-SILVER.—Put a poker or any piece of iron in the fire until red hot; then put the metal on it, and the quick-silver will evaporate.

TO JOIN GLASS TOGETHER.—Melt a little isinglass in spirits of wine, adding thereto about a fifth part of water and using a gentle heat. When perfectly melted and mixed, it will form a transparent glue, which will unite glass so that the fracture will hardly be perceived.—*N. Y. Far. & Mechanic.*

LICE ON FOWLS, BIRDS, &c.—Fowls, chickens, and others of the feathered race often suffer much from vermin. There is a very small insect, much smaller than the common hen louse that is very destructive, often causing the death of the hen on her nest, or causing her to leave her nest, often just before the time of hatching, to the great loss and disappointment of the owner.

These lice are not common where there are but few hens, or when they have a good range and roost in open situations. When they roost in a close place, these insects generally appear in the warm season. They are of a pale color when hungry, but when they have free access to hens they are filled with blood and are of a dark color. When magnified they look like a wood tick.

They are very hard to kill, far more so than the more common hen louse. We have been told by two persons who have much experience in keeping poultry and birds, that whale oil soap, so valuable for destroying insects on vegetables, is the best remedy for lice on all the feathered tribe even for the delicate Canary bird. The oil soap is used very strong, a ding

barely water enough to dissolve it, then take the fowl, chick, or bird by the bill, and souse him in all but his eyes and mouth, and rub the liquid into his feathers. It is said that it will not harm them.

Whitewashing every part of the hen house, nests and all, has a good effect in preventing hen lice. When they are in the nests, they should be cleared out, brushed or washed, the old straw burnt, buried or removed to some distance, and a fresh lot supplied. Strong scented herbs in nests have been recommended, and camphor too, but we have tried them in vain, as it regards the small lice or ticks. Lard or butter are often used to kill lice on chickens or hens, but we have found that dry snuff put on them in a few places causes them to scamper very quick, so that in an hour or two after not one will be seen, and this seems to have no unpleasant effect on the fowls. This was recommended some months since by one of our correspondents. Constant attention is necessary to guard against this evil, else fowls, birds and chickens will die before it is known that any thing is the matter with them.—*Boston Cultivator.*

From the Richmond Enquirer.

BLACK TONGUE.—TREATMENT FOR.—Gentlemen: As this fatal disease is prevailing in many sections of this State and North Carolina, and as I have received many requests soliciting the best mode of treatment, I beg leave to present the treatment I have invariably instituted, and always with success, to the public, through the medium of your widely circulating paper; hoping thus to be the means of saving many valuable lives. It is useless to enter into the history of the disease, as the symptoms are well marked. Suffice it to say, it is a combination of *Scarlatina Maligna* and *Erysipelas*. Upon the first premonition of the disease, the patient should take an emetic of *Lobelia Inf.*—either the tincture—one teaspoonful every ten minutes, using some bland aromatic tea, or two table-spoonfuls of the decoction.—This will cleanse the stomach, excite the salivary glands to action, and produce a sympathetic action upon the surface. This is, at times, sufficient to arrest the disease. If it should progress, however, the emetic must be repeated, and a strong infusion of *Capicum* (Cayenne pepper) and *Myrica Cerifera* (bayberry) administered every hour and used as a gargle. The bayberry being an astringent, coagulates the morbid incrustations on the tongue, mouth, fauces, &c., facilitating its discharge, while the Cayenne stimulates the glands to a healthy action, and also excites copious perspiration, a very important desideratum in the disease. The tincture of *Lobelia* should also be given in broken doses, just sufficient to keep the patient slightly nauseated. This article seems to exert a peculiar action upon the glands and the mucous membrane, producing a normal action in both. As an external application to the throat, a cataplasm of strong lye, cayenne, salt, and slippery elm, should be prepared, and applied to the whole surface of the throat, which will produce a revulsion of the fluids, from the internal to the external surface, thus decreasing the force of the disease. Diaphoretics should also be administered, in connection with the Cayenne, to keep up the action upon the surface. The best articles of this class are *Serpentaria*, (Virginia Snake root), *Asclepius*, (Pleurisy root,) &c.

The vapor bath should be frequently used. It purifies the skin, induces a determination to the surface, excites perspiration, &c. One of the principal difficulties in this disease, is the want of a proper oxy-

generation of the blood from the impeded respiration. The vapor bath is thus useful, especially in the last stages, from the quantity of oxygen absorbed into the system by the cutaneous absorbents from the vapor. The warmth of the steam rendering the absorbents more active, a much larger quantity of oxygen is thus absorbed than would be supplied. Thus in *Phthisis Pulmonalis*, I have known the patient keep alive for days—from the absorption, I presume of oxygen by this means—from an occasional vapor bath; the waste of the system, by cutaneous transpiration, being supplied by warm diluted drinks. This, however, is mere hypothesis. Let every one, however, afflicted with Black Tongue, institute the above treatment, for *probatum est*.

Respectfully,

AN ECLECTIC PHYSICIAN.

Lombardy Grove, Virginia.

METEOROLOGICAL TABLE, FROM 27TH FEBRUARY, TO 28TH MARCH.

Kept at Schellman Hall, near Sykesville, Carroll co. Md.
Taken at 6 o'clock, a. m., 3 o'clock, noon, and at 6 o'clock, p. m.

Wind.	Temperature	Remarks.
27 W W W	4 25 18	Clear
28 SE NE NE	17 25 21	Snow
1 NE N E	23 22 21	Snow 10 inches
2 N N N	15 20 22	Cloudy
3 N N W	19 44 30	Clear
4 SW SW SW	15 50 41	Clear
5 W SW S	40 60 51	Clear
6 S SW W	35 61 44	Cloudy Clear, several showers.
7 W SW SW	29 50 37	Clear
8 W W W	28 64 55	Frost Clear
9 W W W	32 50 40	Clear
10 W W SW	25 58 40	Frost Clear
11 SW SW SW	36 53 45	Frost Clear
12 SW S S	40 61 55	Cloudy Clear
13 SE SE S	50 58 56	Rain—thunder in the afternoon, Frogs, Swam at midnight, thunder very loud, rain 2 inches
14 SW W W	49 55 47	Cloudy Clear
15 W W SW	39 58 50	Clear
16 W NW NW	37 42 39	Cloudy, Clear, wind high,
17 W NW NW	30 49 41	Clear
18 W W NW	37 60 50	Clear
19 W W NW	45 70 60	Cloudy
20 W S W	49 76 67	Clear, calm light wind
21 W NW NW	41 55 44	Clear, high wind
22 W NW NW	29 56 51	Clear
23 W SW SW	33 56 51	Clear, Cloudy, Rain,
24 S S NE	49 52 49	Rain 1-2 inch, chilly,
25 W S W	54 68 60	Rain 1 inch high wind, thunder,
26 W W W	46 60 54	Cloudy Clear
27 SW SW W	41 58 30	Cloudy, Chilly, Clear
28 NW SE	38 45	Cloudy Rain

Baltimore Market, March 30.

The foreign news by the steamer Hibernia, has had but little effect on the Flour market, and that little unfavorable, notwithstanding the fact of Peel's new tariff measure having passed the House of Commons by a decisive majority. On Monday of last week, Howard-st. was held at \$4.81, but at the close of the week this rate could not be obtained except for select brands—to day, it is held at \$4.75—City Mills, stock small, and holders firm at \$5—Susquehanna, nosales, held at \$4.87—Rye Flour is scarce and wanted at \$3.75 for 1st—Corn meal, \$3.25 for bbls.; no Penn. in market—Wheat, sales of fair to prime reds, have ranged from 105 to 108a110; family flour white wheats would bring 120 to 115; Pa. wheats are wanted, and best reds would command 110c.—Corn, Pa. yellow, 68c.; Md. white 63a64c.; yellow 65c., being a decline from the first of the last week—Rye, Pa. 78c. wanted; Md. 76.—Oats, Md. 38a40—Clover-seed, demand limited, ord. to very prime seed, \$5.25a5.75; some choice lots at \$5.87a6—Flax seed, in request at \$1.20a1.25 per bushel.—Hemp, dew rotted Ky. 4a4c.; water do. 6a7.—Molasses, N. O. in

bbls. 32c. demand bright—Tar \$2 per bbl.—Plaster, \$4 per ton—Beef, mess, \$10.25; 8.50 for No. 1; and 6.25 for prime—Pork, mess, \$12a12.50; prime \$10.50.—Bacon, Balto. cured, at 5, 6, and 7a8. for shoulders, sides and hams.—Butter, glades, 10a13; West. nominal, at 10a11c.; roll 12c.—Lard, No. 1 kegs 7c.; bbls. 6a7—Cheese, West., in boxes 8a9; East. in do. for shipping 10c.—Rice, \$4.25 to 4.50—Sugars, stock light and market quiet; P. Rico, small sales at 7.30a7.50 for good to prime, holders firm; while Brazil 9.50—Wool, no transactions to note—Whiskey, uniform at 24 for hds. and 25 for bbls.—Cattle, this day, are 2.25a3.62 per 100 lbs on the hoof, equal to 4.50a7 net; the offerings last Monday, were 300 head, to day 524—Hogs, supply quite ample, and a reduction in price; sales dull at 4.62a5—Coffee, Rio, 7 7-8a8c.—Cotton, upland 8 5-8a8c.—Fish, mackerel, dull, 11.75a6.50, and 4.62, for Nos. 1, 2, and 3—Fethers, 20a25 for inferior to mid. and good to prime 26a30—Coupons 75a76 in sums to suit tax payers—Tobacco, Receipts of Md. begin to be more free and a better disposition to buy is manifested on the part of shippers, but the low prices offered, check operations; improved descriptions go off slowly, while good qualities are in demand and sell readily—the sales of last week comprise 300 to 400 hds. old, and new crop within the range of quotations, viz. Inferior and common Maryland, \$2a3; middling to good \$3a5.50; good 56a7, and fine \$8a12. Considerable sales Ground Leaf at \$3a7, for common to good lots, and some fancy parcels at higher rates. We note sales of about 400 hds common to middling Ohio at \$2.50a4. Our quotations are for common to middling \$2.50a4.50; good \$5a6; fine red and wrapery \$6.50a10; fine yellow \$10a12, and extra wrapery \$11a13. Inspections for the last five weeks:—1549 hds. Md., 286 Ohio; 18 Va.—Total 1853. Potatoes, 1.37a1.50, for mercer—Hay, timot'y \$17a18.

"Spade labour, the perfection of good husbandry."

PULVERIZA-
TION.DECOMPOSI-
TION.

THE "PREMIUM PLOUGH"—In PROUTY & MEANS' No. 51-2, "confessedly the best PLOUGH known in this country for beauty of work and pulverizing the soil," we have combined the most perfect sowing as well as wheel Plough, connected also with the principles of self-sharpening and centre-draught, which with the facility of turning it into a Tandem 2, 4, or 3 horses abreast Plough in a minute of time, renders it the *NE PLUS ULTRA* of perfection. During the past season it received the first premium for the *BEST PLOUGH*, at Philadelphia; a first, second and third premium at New Castle county, Del.; the Imperial Medal of Russia, of massive gold, value \$300; and at Prince George's society, Md. the highest testimony of approbation, in not permitting it to compete, having already received the first premium as the *BEST PLOUGH* for general purposes." Their one-horse Plough No. 21-3, is strongly recommended for light soils and horticultural purposes, being built after the same model, self-sharpening, and carrying a sod furrow 10 in wide with great ease and precision.

For sale at No. 55 LIGHT ST. Baltimore, Mr. EZRA WHITMAN being appointed sole Agent for sales in Baltimore and vicinity. Fe 1

NOTICE.—The subscriber, residing near Williamsport, Washington Co. Md. is desirous of employing for the next year, a GARDENER.—To a person well versed in the business, sober and industrious, liberal wages will be given.

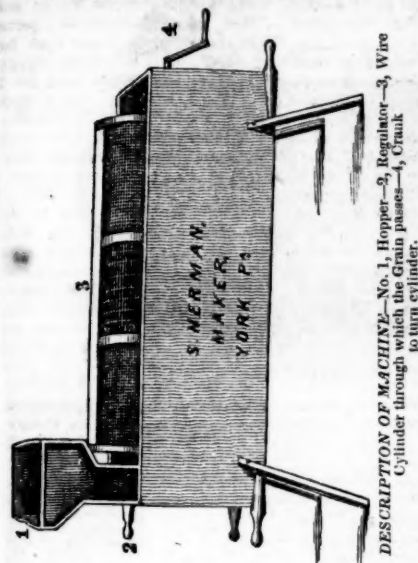
mh 1 6t JNO. R. DALL.

RASPBERRIES, CURRANTS, GOOSEBERRIES, GRAPEVINES, HONEYSUCKLES, and other Flowering Shrubby, a general variety of Roses—also, Apricots and Plums—Asparagus Roots, &c. &c.—of the very choicest kinds, raised by the subscriber, who gives his personal attention to the rearing and packing of his trees and roots; and as he keeps none but the very finest sorts, he can confidently recommend them to those who may wish to secure a superior assortment, and to obtain such as may be relied on. Orders left with Mr. SANDS, at the office of the *American Farmer*, or at the Nursery in Ross st. near the head of Eutaw st. will be promptly attended to.

mh 1 JOSEPH HEUSLER.

ROLLING SCREENS.

A Cheap Machine for Cleaning Seed Grain.



The machines can be examined at the shop of the subscriber, North George street, York, Pa. where he carries on Wire weaving and Sieve-making in all its branches.

York, Pa. Jan'y, 1846 SAMUEL HERMAN.
 (Messrs SINCLAIR & Co. Light near Pratt street, are appointed Agents for the sale of the Screen. ap 1

PLOWS, CULTIVATORS, &c.—The subscriber wishing to close out his present stock on hand, offers several Horse-Powers and Threshing Machines of good construction and superior workmanship, at less than cost; also 65 superior made Corn Cultivators with wrought teeth, at less than cost—Also a good supply of PLOWS of the following kinds, viz: Davis' improved, wrought and cast shares; do the improved Corn sharpening, with steel points and chilled shares; a superior article; do what is called Chenoweth's self-sharpening (Evans' patent); and Hill side Ploughs, with a great variety of Plow Castings at wholesale and retail—Likewise in store, cast steel Shovels and Spades, Garden Rakes, cast steel and malleable iron, Garden Hoes, &c. Also two Lime Carts left on hand for sale. ap 1 J. S. EASTMAN, 180 west Pratt st.

TURNING LATHES, &c. for sale—1 large Rack Lathe with double heads; 1 very large geared Lathe; also 1 hand Lathe; various Blacksmith's and other Tools more than he has use for, would be parted with on reasonable terms. ap 1 J. S. EASTMAN, 180 Pratt st.

IMPROVED STOCK.—Several head of Improved short-horn Durtin cows—and several Berkshire Hogs, including a very large Boar and breeding sow, the latter about to farrow, 2 years old, very large, for sale by DANIEL BOWLY, Bel-air road, 3 miles out. April 1

PLOUGHS! PLOUGHS!!

The subscriber is manufacturing Ploughs of various patterns and of different sizes; also Wheat Fans, Cylindrical Straw Cutters, Corn and Tobacco Cultivators, CORN SHELLERS, &c. Also,

THRESHING MACHINES AND HORSE POWERS—these latter are used by the following gentlemen, to whom reference is made, as to their superior value, viz. Messrs S. Beard, T. Beard, Dr. Watkins, T. J. Hodges, T. Welsh, W. Mackall, J. Iglehart, A. Sellman, W. Hopkins, J. Kent, G. R. Gaitner, all of Anne Arundel county; and to Messrs R. B. Chew, J. Y. Barber, W. Boswell, G. W. Weems, and Z. Howes, of Calvert co. Md. (Those wishing to examine the above articles are invited to call at my establishment in Gillingham alley, entrance from Howard st. 4 doors from Pratt st. Baltimore. mh 1

CHAS. H. DRURY.

AULT'S ENGLISH GARDEN SEEDS. Just received from our friends near London, our usual supply of first rate English GARDEN SEEDS, warranted to be of the same good quality as those of last and former years. Further recommendation is needless. They consist of the various kinds of Peas, Beans, Cabbage, Cauliflower, Brocoli, Carrot, Parsnip, Turnip, Onion, Radish, &c. &c. Also, Sherwin's Rudo Baga and Transparent Silisia SUGAR BEET, for cattle. The above wholesale and retail, by SAM'L AULT & SON, mh 1 N. W. corner Calvert & Water-sts.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS for sale at No. 7 Bowly's wharf, Baltimore, by WM. GAWTHROP & SON.

We offer to Farmers and Planters our Premium Double Corn Shellers, which have proved themselves to be the very best now in use—we have on hand one of the best selections of PLOWS in the state, the castings of which are the composition metal, with chilled heels, points and edges; our plows embrace the Minor & Horton from 6 inch. to 13, so much used in the North it is one of the lightest draught plows in use—we have the Wiley improved, and the old pattern of the N. York manufacture, which is known without comment. Also, the Prouty, Chenoweth, Self-sharpening, Davis, and all other kinds; Plow Shears and Points for all kinds of Plows; Fans, Straw Cutters, Corn and Cob Crushers, and all other kinds of Implements used in farming—we also keep all kinds of Field Seeds—we do a general commission business in Grain, Seeds and Country Produce. Fe 1

BOMMER'S METHOD FOR MAKING MANURE—The subscriber has been appointed by Mr. Bommer, his agent for the Southern States, and will dispose of the Books, with the right to use them, for any sized farm, at \$5 each. Address (post paid) mh SAM'L SANDS, office of "A. Farmer."

GUANO—The subscribers have received from N. York, a large supply of this celebrated manure, imported into that port in the bark Caroline Amelia from Chila, and is equal to any ever brought to this country. It is in the original bags of about 150 pounds each, and will be sold by the bag or larger quantity at \$40 per ton of 10 tons and over, —\$42½ per ton of 5 tons and over—\$45 per ton for less than 5 tons, of 2240 lbs.

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 (Orders for smaller quantities than 5 tons supplied by SAMUEL SANDS, at the office of the American Farmer, 122 Baltimore street, near North street, where the analysis and report of Prof. DUCATEL (an extract from which was published in the last Farmer) can be examined. mh 1

JAMES MURRAY'S CORN & COB CRUSHERS—These already celebrated machines have obtained the premium by a fair trial against other Crushers exhibited at the fair held at Georgetown, Balt. co. Md. in Oct. 1845, and the increased demand enables the patentee to give further inducements to purchasers by fitting an extra pair of grinders to each machine without extra charge. Prices \$25, 30, 35, 40, 45.

Also—Small MILLS, which received a certificate of merit, for \$15—I have also superior CUTTING BOXES, such as will bear inspection by either farmers or mechanics. Also, Horse Powers, Mills, Corn Shellers, Mill and Carry-log Screws, small Steam Engines, Turning Lathes, &c. Also, a second hand Steam Engine, 16 horse power, and the works for 2 Saw Mills. Any kind of Machine, Model or Mill-work built to order, and all mills planned and erected by me, warranted to operate well. Patent Rights for the Corn and Cob Crusher for sale. cy JAS. MURRAY, Millwright, York near Light st. Balt.

NEW YORK AGRICULTURAL WAREHOUSE—Having taken the commodious store No. 187 Water st. the subscriber is now opening the largest and most complete assortment of Agricultural Implements of all kinds ever offered in this market. Most of these are of new and highly improved patterns, warranted to be made of the best material, put together in the strongest manner, of a very superior finish, and offered at the lowest cash prices.

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FERTILIZERS—Peruvian and African Guano, Poudrette, Bone dust, Lime, Plaster of Paris, &c.

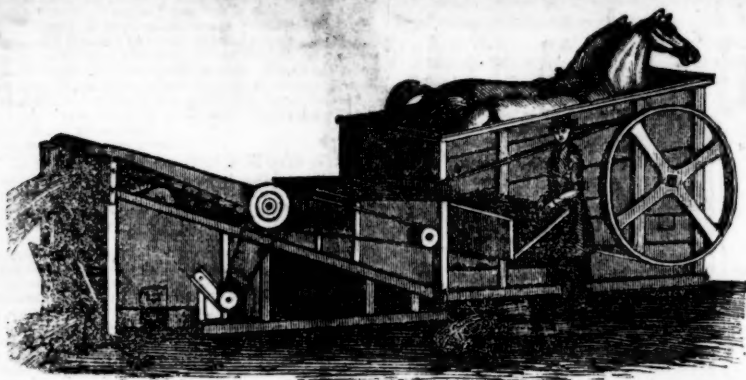
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WIRE CLOTHS & SIEVES—Different kinds and sizes of these to be had at all times.

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A. B. ALLEN, 187 Water st. New York.
 Editor of the American Agriculturist, a monthly publication of 222 pages 8vo. with numerous illustrations. Price \$1 a year.

WHITMAN'S WROUGHT IRON RAILWAY HORSE POWER & THRASHING MACHINE.



THE above cut represents my Wrought Iron Rail-way Horse Power and Thrashing Machine, of which more than one thousand are now in use—and as this is the only Horse Power or Thrashing Machine that has given general satisfaction, I take pleasure in giving a short description of it, with a list of prices.

1st. The frame of the Horse Power is made with five posts, on either side, and as many cross girths bolted together with wrought iron in the most substantial manner.

2d. The Rail-way, guides, circles, and all the connecting and fastening irons, are made of wrought iron, instead of cast iron.

3d. The gearing is at the end of the Power, where it is not affected by the wear, or liable to be broken by wild or false horses.

4th. It being made of wrought iron, there is no difficulty in giving sufficient width for the horses to travel with ease, and no more rods, wheels or fastenings in the two horse power, than in the one horse power.

5th. Farmers wishing to purchase, will be particular to observe the above, as the great success of my machine, may bring others, of inferior construction, into our market.

I have the pleasure of referring to either of the following named gentlemen farmers, residing in the immediate vicinity of Baltimore, who have purchased my Horse Power and Thrashing Machine the past season, and who will no doubt be willing to give information respecting their utility,—viz:

Jesse Slingluff,	James Swan,	George Harryman,
Jacob S. Forney,	William Genl,	Daniel Bowly,
Thomas J. Talbot,	Owen Cecil,	A. M. Johnson,
Joseph Parks,	George Jenkins,	Charles B. Barney,
Frederick Harrison,	John Rider,	Samuel Sutton,
William Shipley,	Joseph Benson,	

The cash prices for those articles are as follows, viz:—
For Two Horse Power, \$100—For One Horse Power, \$75—with an additional charge for extra long shaft and extra pulley, \$5. For Thrasher which thrashes and cleans at one and the same operation, \$100. For 24 inch Thrasher, with new improvement, \$50—20 inch do. with do., \$45—16 inch do., \$40.

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“ “ Common 2 horse do	11 00
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“ “ with regulating wheel, extra	1 50

ALSO FOR SALE—Winan's self-sharpening Plows, at \$5 to \$8 each—Evans or Chenoweth do 4.50 to 6.50—Wiley do 4.50 to 10—Beach's self-sharpening do 4.50 to 6.50—Wood's do 2.50 to 7—Sinclair & Moore's do 4.50 to 12—Davis' do 4.50 to 12—Bar-shear do 5.50 to 12—Hill-side do 8 to 12—Connecticut do 4.50 to 6—Subsoil do 8 to 14—Wheel Plows \$8—3 furrow seedling and corn Plow 6.50—Tobacco barring do 6.50—Double mould board do 8—Shovel do 4.50.

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